PRIEST
4

SIRHC- 2003.10.02

SYNOPSIS:

- BEFORE IVAN ISSACS BECAME THE UNDEAD PILGRIM WHO BATTLES TEMOZARELA'S FORCES, HE WAS JUST A MORTAL MAN WITH THE USUAL HUMAN FAILINGS ORPHANED AT AN EARLY AGE. IVAN WAS ADOPTED BY JACOB ISAACS, A WEALTHY FRONTIERSMAN WHO WANTED HIS ONLY DAUGHTER, JENNA, TO HAVE A COMPANION. IN THE SOLITUDE OF THE ISAACS' HOMESTEAD, THE TWO SIBLINGS DEVELOPED STRONGER FEELINGS THAN THEIR FATHER OR SOCIETY WOULD ALLOW. TO ESCAPE FROM HIS DESIRE, IVAN ENTERED SEMINARY, WHERE HE FOUND A NEW INTEREST: THE STUDY OF ANCIENT RELIGIONS. NINE YEARS LATER, FATHER IVAN ISAACS IS STILL HAUNTED BY MEMORIES OF HIS TRUE LOVE. BUT A NEW FIGURE HAS BEGUN APPEARING IN HIS DREAMS-A KNIGHT TEMPLAR, A HOLY DEFENDER OF THE CRUSADES. NOW IVAN STANDS AT A CROSSROADS. ONE PATH LEADS TO ANCIENT DEMONS, THE OTHER TO A FORBIDDEN LOVE. WHICHEVER PATH HE CHOOSES WILL CERTAINLY LEAD TO DAMNATION.

NOTES:

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- LAST RLS: SCRYED VOL 01

SORRY NO FULL VOLUME RELEASE WITH THIS ONE. DIDN'T HAVE ANYTHING TO WATCH WHILE SCANNING THE WHOLE BOOK. SO, I JUST SCANNED 3 CHAPTERS.

ENJOY!!!

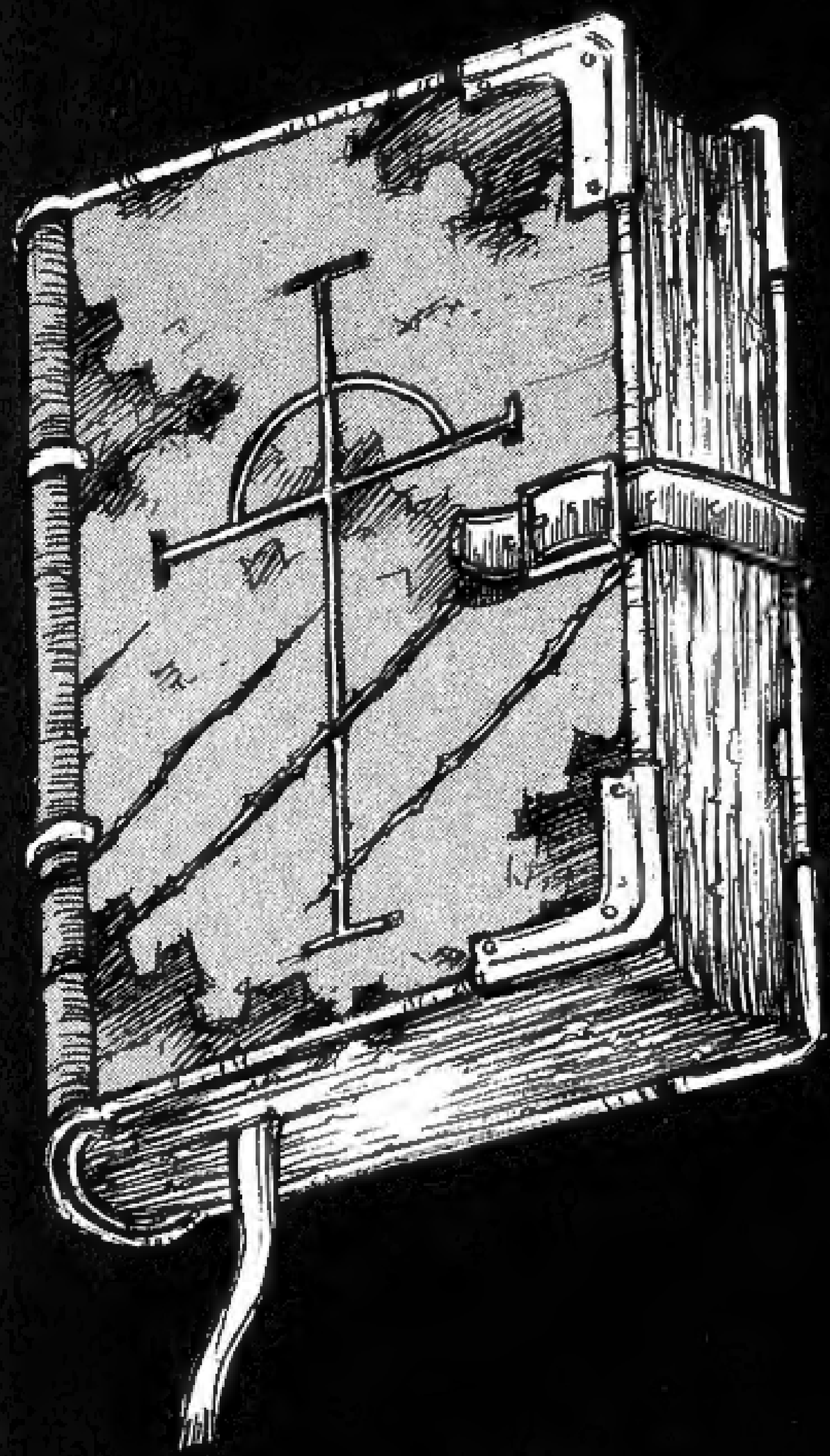
VOLUME 4

BY

MIN-WOO HYUNG

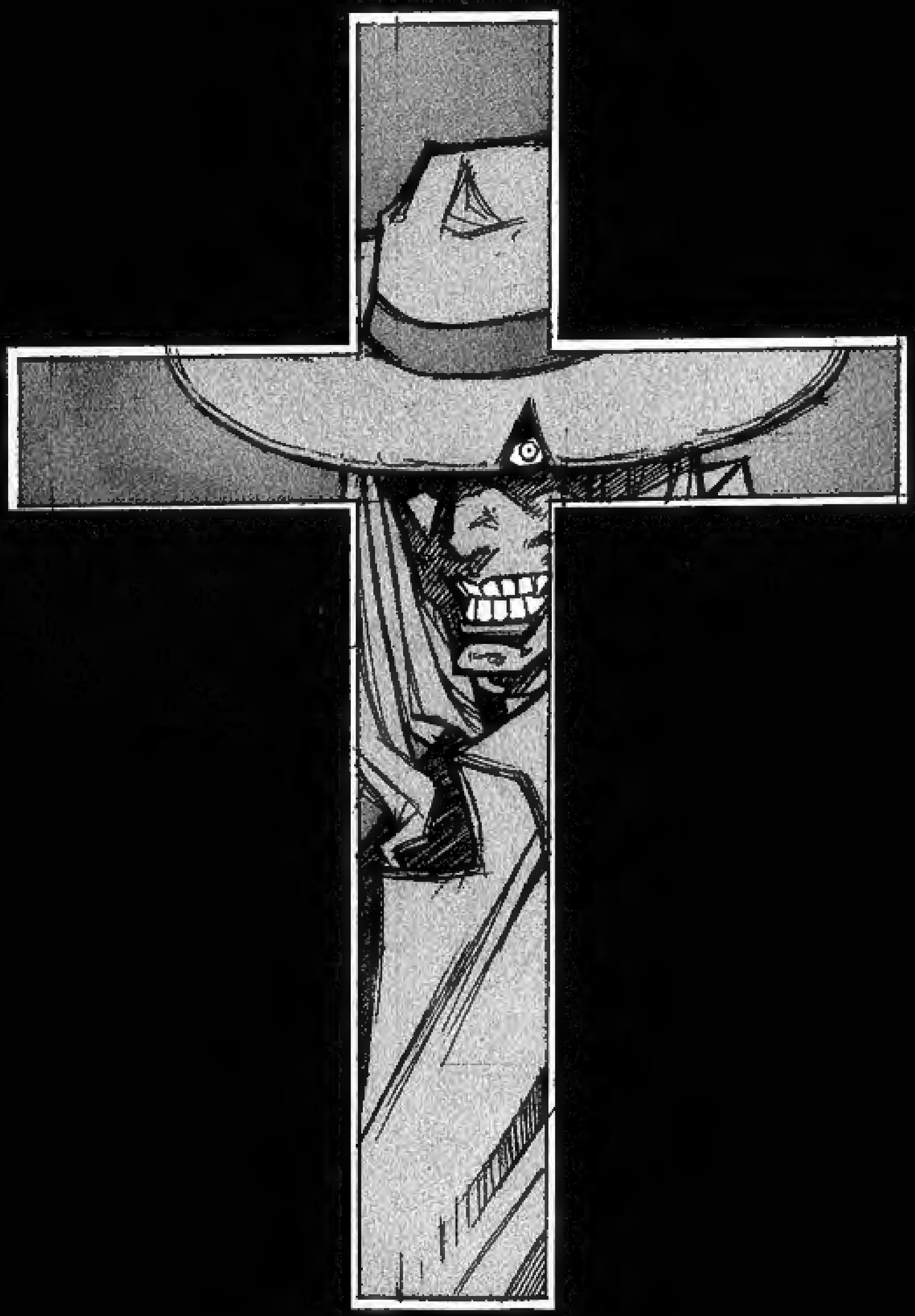
TOKYOPOP®

LOS ANGELES • TOKYO



THE STORY SO FAR...

In the frontier of the American West, a forgotten war was waged between the followers of Temozarela, an angel of blood fallen from heaven, and those who stood against the darkness. And somewhere in between walked Ivan Isaacs, a dead priest who sold his soul to the devil Belial for a second chance at life and the power to get his revenge. While Ivan hunted down Temozarela's followers, he kept a detailed log of his tragic journey. Now his journal has fallen into the hands of Father Simon, a modern day religious scholar who had been looking for this kind of miraculous proof of the divine to fortify his faith. Simon was summoned to the Heshion, a holy prison where the soul of Temozarela is sealed to this day, along with the soul of Ivan Isaacs. But before Simon can understand the evil that has been discovered in the present, he must first learn about the man who trapped it.



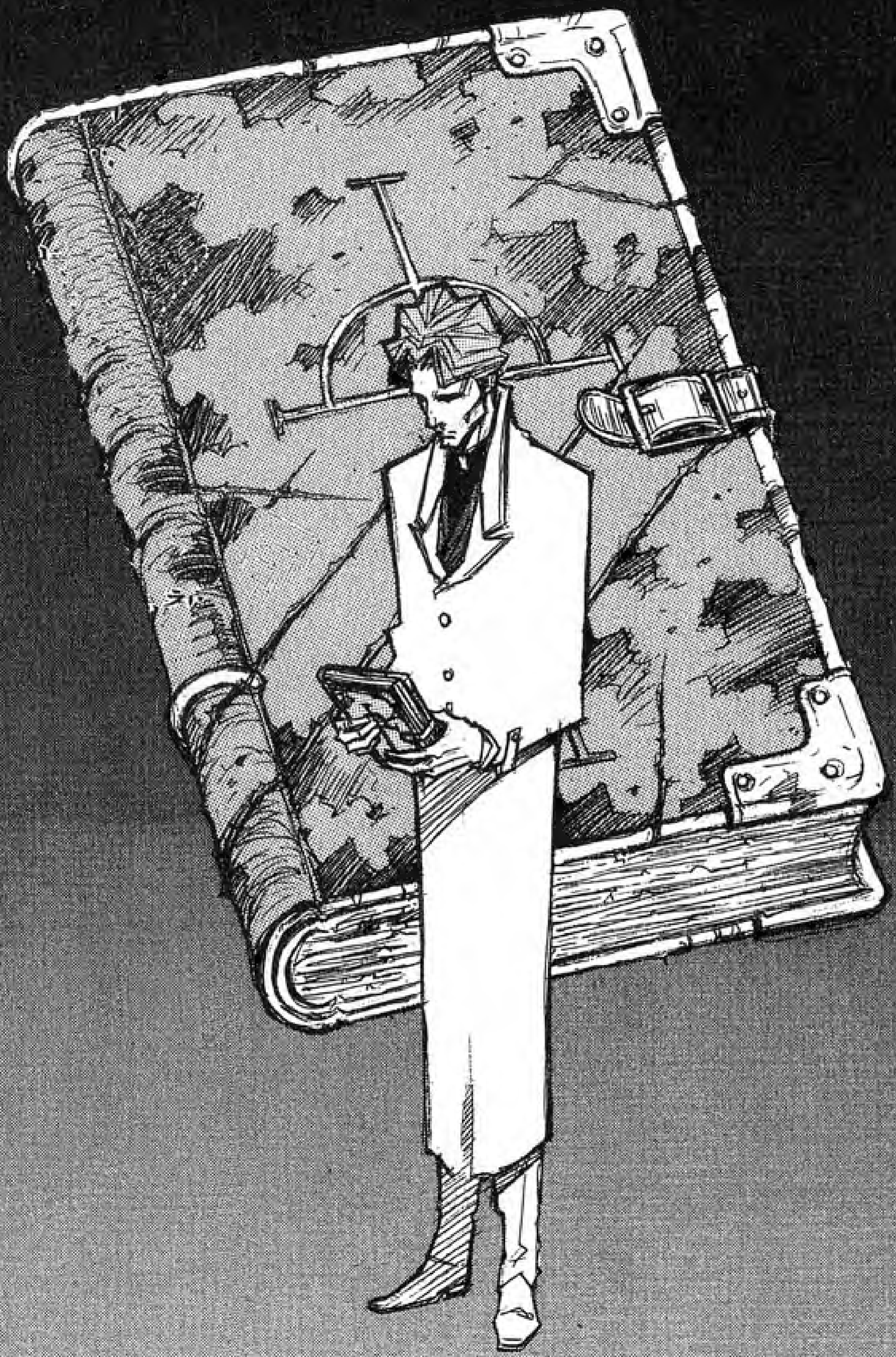
PRIEST

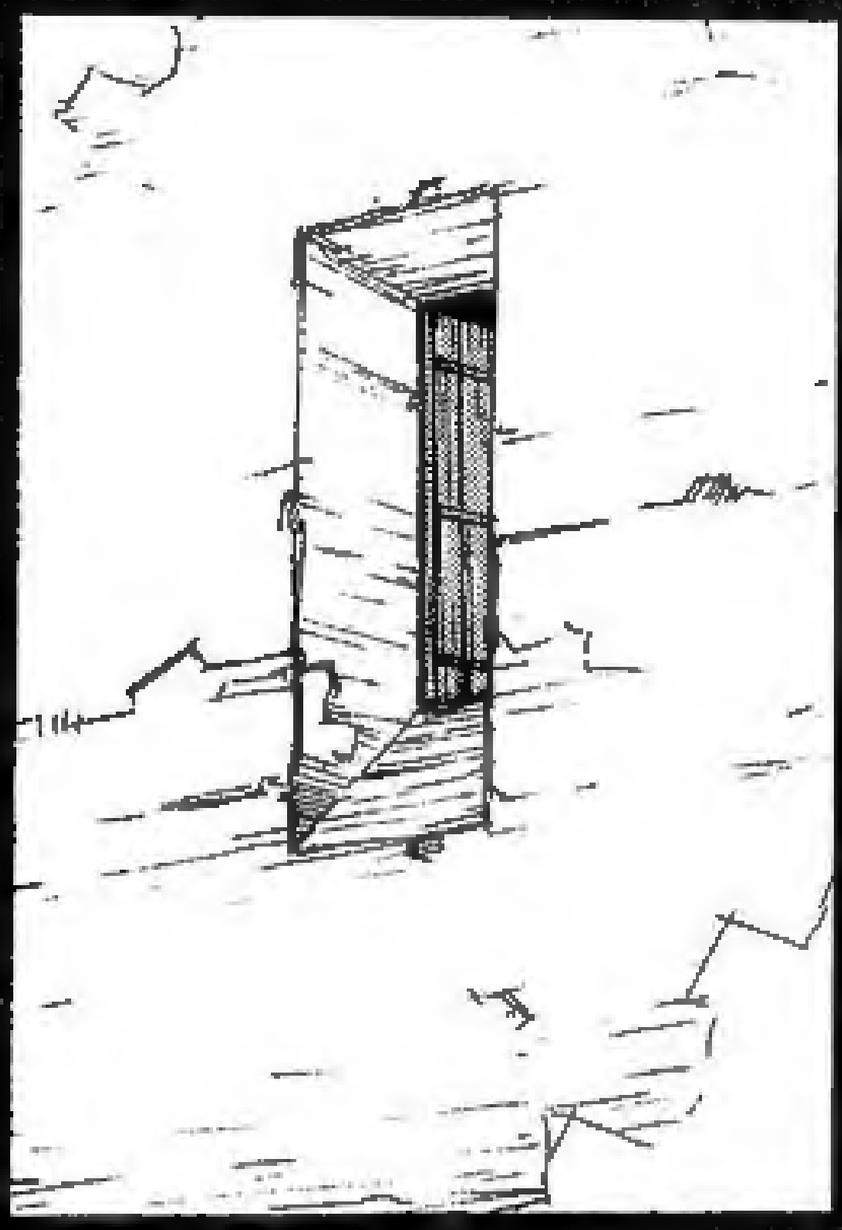
立已人三

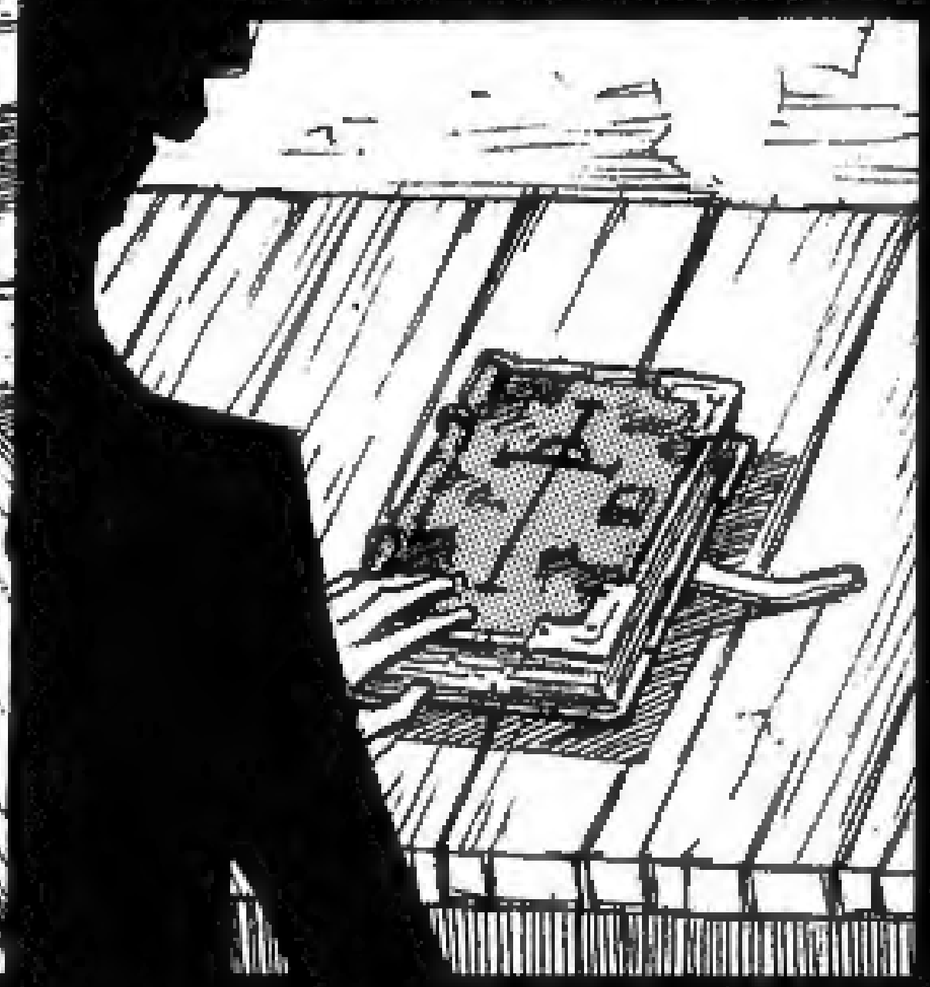
4

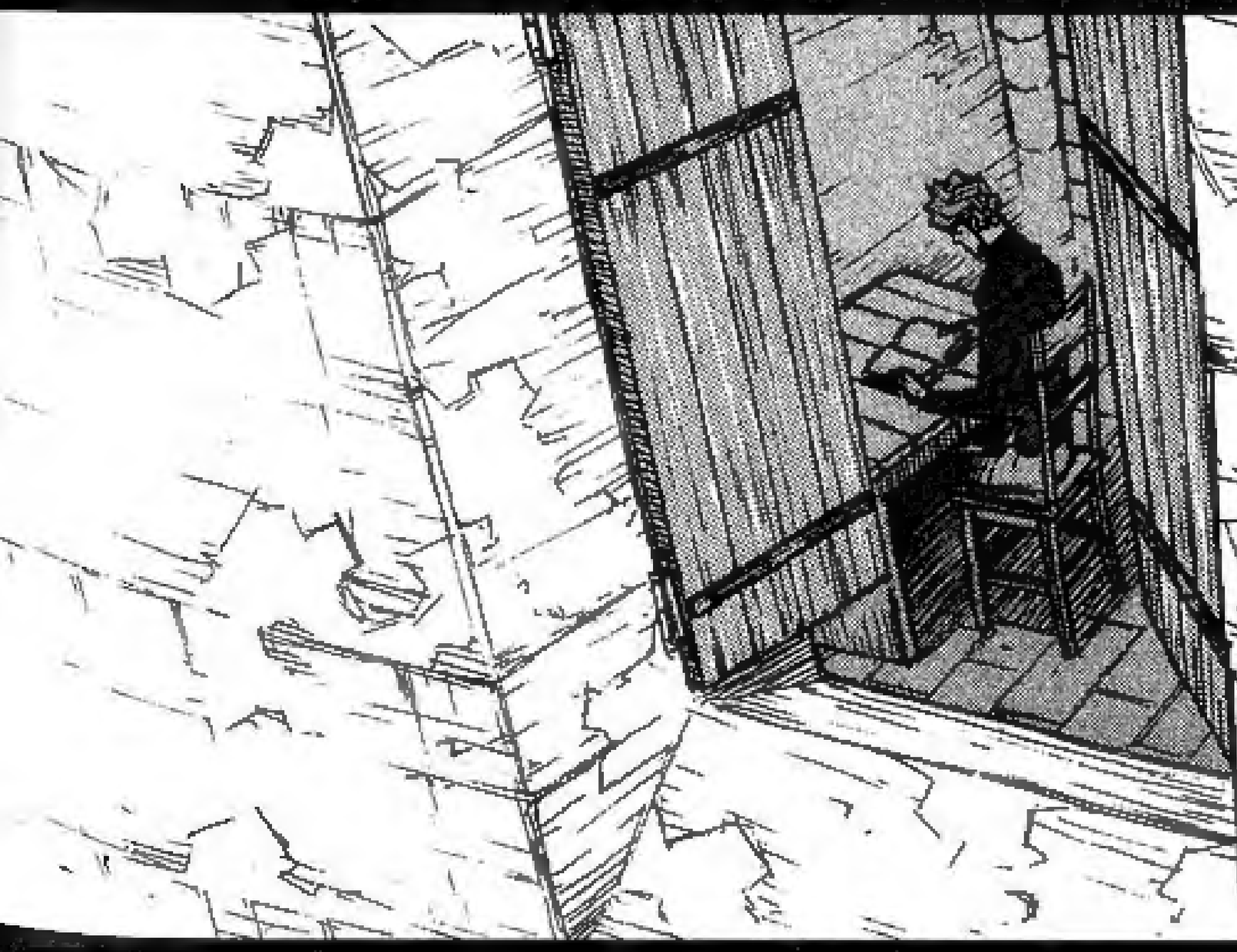
HARBINGER'S SONG

THE BLOODSTAINS AND COUNTLESS SCRATCHES...THIS BOOK STILL BEARS THE SCARS OF THE WAR AGAINST THE HERETIC FOUGHT 300 YEARS AGO. I'VE SPENT MY LIFE IN PURSUIT OF FAITH. BUT THIS BOOK...IT CHANGES EVERYTHING.









MANY BELIEVERS WANT NOTHNG MORE THAN TO WITNESS A MIRACLE TO JUSTIFY THEIR FAITH IN GOD. BUT THERE ARE OTHERS WHO HAVE LOST THEIR FAITH AFTER SEEING TOO MANY MIRACLES.

I WAS DEAD ONCE, BUT I WAS GIVEN A SECOND CHANCE AT LIFE.

IT WAS A GIFT FROM THE DEVIL WHO NOW OCCUPIES HALF OF MY SOUL.

IN DEATH I FORSOOK GOD AND WAS BORN AGAIN A HERETIC.

A JOURNEY OF REVENGE, WOVEN IN BLOOD AND CORPSES-- THAT IS THE LIFE THAT I HAVE CHOSEN.

BUT WHEN MY JOURNEY REACHES ITS END...

...WHAT LITTLE IS LEFT OF MY SOUL WILL ALSO DIE OUT.

I DO NOT KNOW HOW MUCH LONGER I CAN CONTINUE TO WRITE.

SOMEDAY WHEN THESE WORDS STOP.

IT WILL MEAN THAT THE DEVIL HAS COME TO RECLAIM THE REMAINDER OF MY SOUL

SIRHC- 2003.10.02

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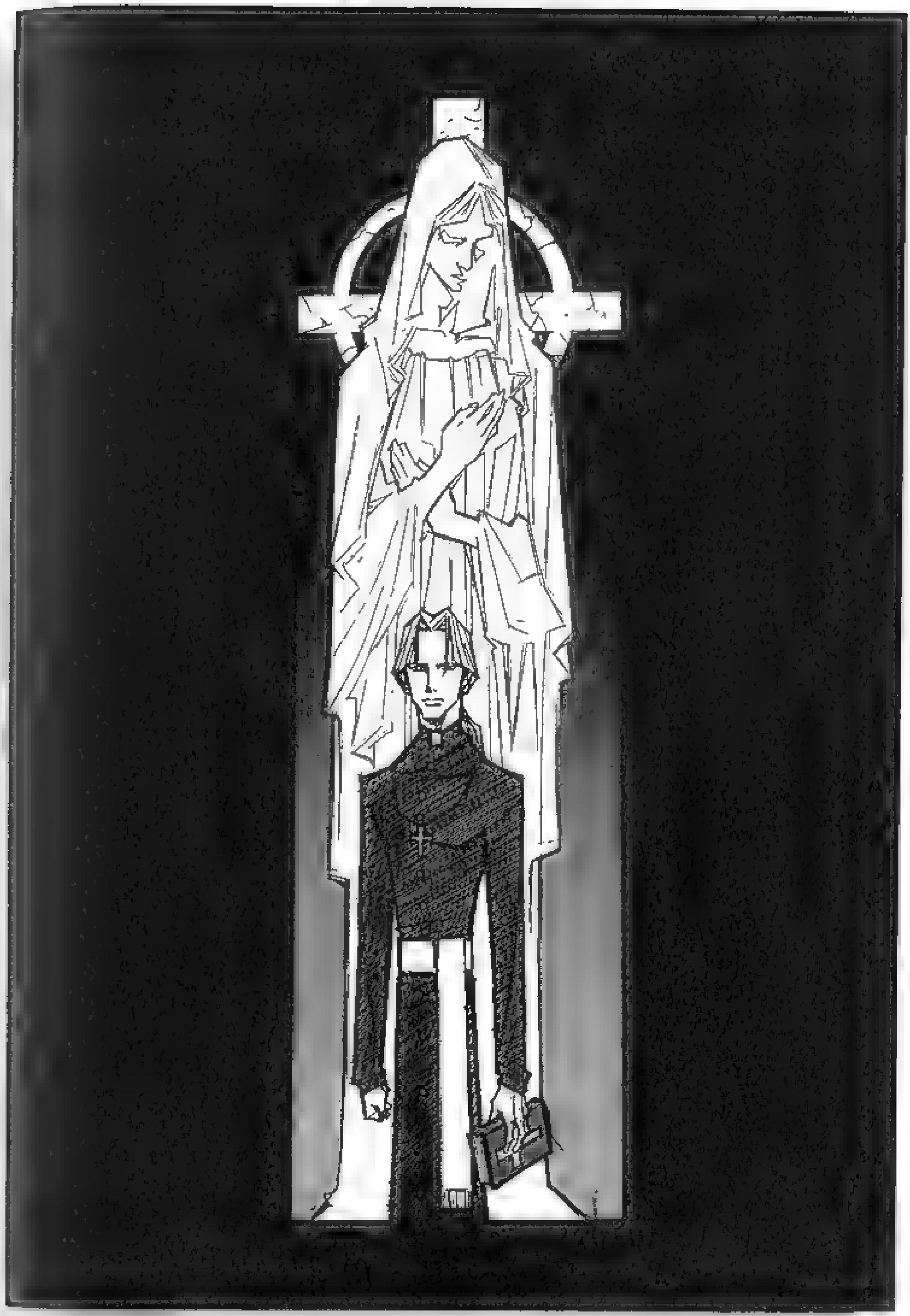
ENJOY!!!



TROMP

TROMP

FA ER

HOW SRANGE. NOTHING'S CHANGED.

OLDSBURY IS JUST LIKE I LEFT IT.

HA HA HA...

WE'RE JUST A COUNTRY TOWN. NOTHIN BUT CATTLE AND PRARE...

IF OUR TOWN HAD CHANGED, NOW THAT WOULD BE STRANGE'

CLICK

NO...

THIS PLACE IS LIKE A HOME TO ME.

YOU MUST HAVE...

...STOPPED BY HERE BEFORE.

EVERY-THING THAT IS PRECIOUS TO ME...

...IS STILL HERE.

PRECIOUS THINGS...

THEY ARE ALSO THE CAUSE OF MY PAIN.

KLUNK

KLUNK

KLUNK

DO YOU SEE

HE WAS A GREAT HERO OF THE SU'HAWK TRIBE.

THEY USED TO LIVE RIGHT HERE IN OLDBURY.

YOU SAID YOU LIKE OLD STORIES, RIGHT?

LET ME TELL YOU MORE.

HUNDREDS OF YEARS AGO BEFORE OUR PEOPLE MADE THIS COUNTRY THEIR OWN, THIS LAND WAS HOME TO THE SU'HAWK INDIANS AND THE GREAT WARRIOR CHINKANONG WAS THEIR CHIEF

ONE DAY, DEMONS CAME TO HIS TRIBE AND TORMENTED HIS PEOPLE.

SO HE FOUGHT AGAINST THE DEMONS WITH THE HELP FROM THE "SOULS OF SUHAWK"

EVEN WHEN THE FIGHT WAS OVER CHINKANONG WANTED TO MAKE SURE THAT DEMONS WOULD NEVER RETURN.

WOW!

SO HE INJURED THE DEMONS IN HIS OWN SOUL AND SHUT HIMSELF INSIDE OF THIS ROCK.

HA HA HA!

YOU REALLY ARE FOND OF OLD LEGENDS, AREN'T YOU, IVAN.

YES, MR. ISAACS.

SISTER MARIA TOLD ME THAT YOU HAVE LOTS OF BOOKS THAT AREN'T AT THE ORPHANAGE.

LOTS OF BOOKS THAT I CAN READ...

IVAN!

I'M NOT, "MR. ISAACS."

I KNOW IT MUST BE HARD AT FIRST BUT PLEASE, CALL ME FATHER

—

KLUNK

KLUNK

KLUNK

KLUNK

!

THEY'RE HERE!

HMPH!

THMP

NORA!

NORA!

MISS GENA. WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

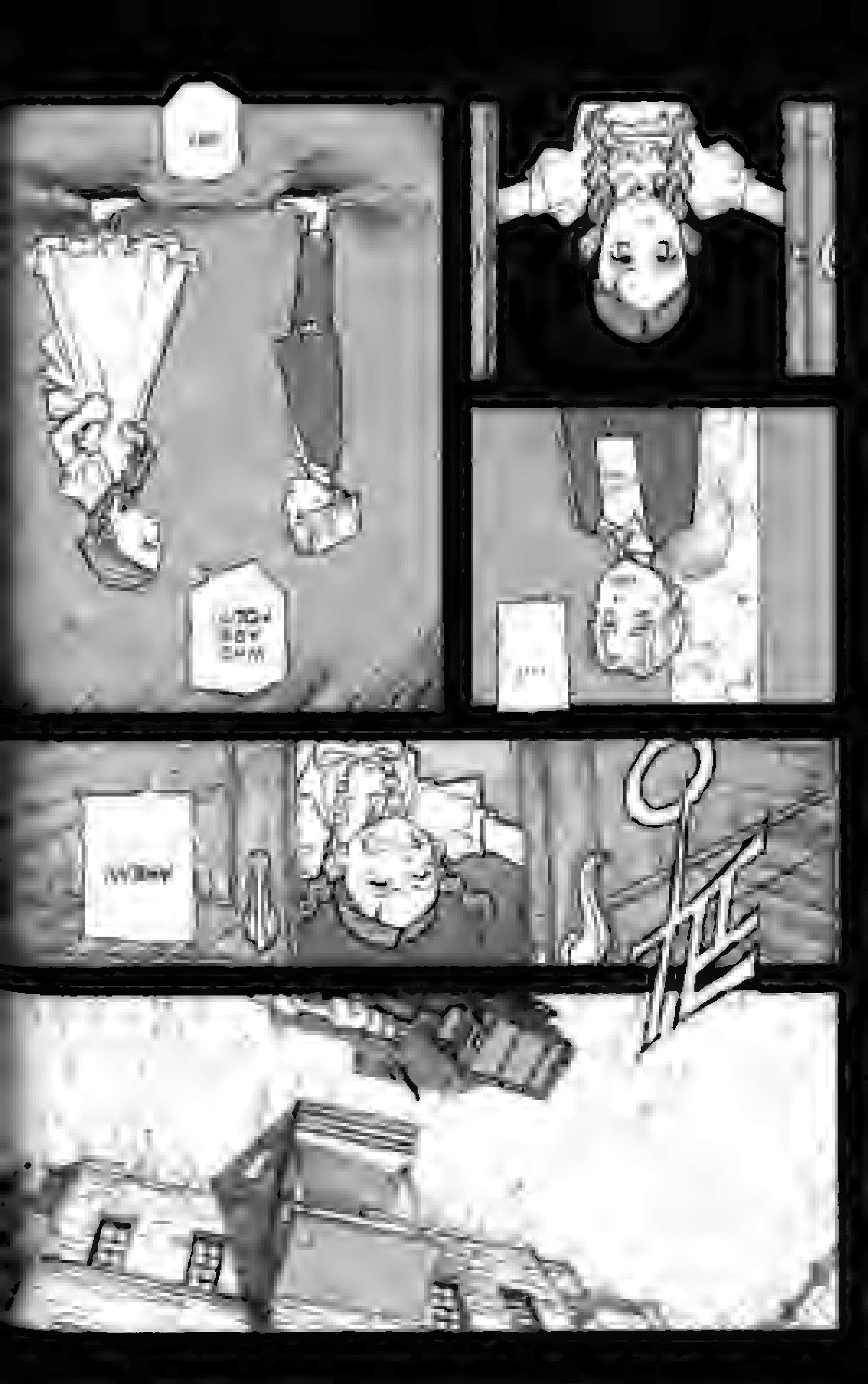
IT'S TIME FOR TEA.

MISS MISS GENA!

AW!

JUST LEAVE IT THERE!

DAD'S HERE!



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ENJOY!!!

GENA,

SAY HELLO TO YOUR NEW BROTHER, IVAN.

...

!

...

...

NO!

NORA SAID YOU'RE BRINGING A CUTE LITTLE SISTER...

HE'S A BOY!

AND... LOOK!

HE'S WAY SHORTER THAN--

...

GENA!

IVAN'S ... AND YEARS ... IVAN ... ... AND ... ...

HE'S A PART OF YOUR FAMILY NOW.

...

KICK

AAH!!

GENA!

IVAN DON'T KNOW HER

SHE'S REALLY NOT A BAD PERSON.

I'M SURE SHE'LL LIKE IT IF YOU TREAT HER LIKE A SISTER.

...

...

LOVE ... GENA

APOLOGIZE TO IVAN.

OUR FATHER WHO ART IN HEAVEN.

I ASK THAT YOU JOIN US AT THIS TABLE,

AND POUR YOUR ABUNDANT BLESSINGS UPON US.

I PRAY THAT THE FOOD YOU HAVE PROVIDED FOR US...

...WILL GIVE US THE STRENGTH TO DO YOUR BIDDING HERE ON EARTH.

I ALSO ASK...

...THAT YOUR GRACE WILL FALL ON EVERYONE ...

TING

FWIP

AHHH!

WHOA!

!

AAAH!

PHEW.

YOU 'DIOT'

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "PHEW?"

!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

YOU'VE INTER-RUPTED DAD'S PRAYER'

DON'T YOU KNOW HOW TO STAY QUIET DURING A PRAYER?

WHAT'S YOUR PROB-LEM?

THAT'S ENOUGH.

HE DIDN'T DO IT ON PURPOSE.

HMM! HE JUST HAS NO MANNERS.

NO MANNERS.

I'D SAY THAT THROWING SOMETHING DURING A SUPPER PRAYER TO KNOCK OVER SOMEONE'S GLASS...

...ALSO SHOWS A LACK OF MANNERS.

DON'T YOU AGREE?

WH— WHO?

DO YOU DO IT?

NOW KISS GINA —

GINA!

—

YOU CAN EITHER APOLOGIZE TO HIM

—OR YOU CAN JUST FORGET ABOU— SUPPER.

I AM FINE.

THAT'S OKAY

THEO!

I HAVE NO INTENTIONS OF—

I'M APOLOGIZING TO YOU!

TONIGHT'S DESSERT IS CUSTARD CAKE.

SORRY, IVAN

IT WAS JUST A JOKE.

DON'T APOLOGIZE —

IF YOU DON'T MEAN IT

HEH

HEH

IT'S ALREADY BEEN THREE YEARS SINCE MY WIFE PASSED AWAY_

HOW MUCH LONGER WILL IT TAKE FOR GENA TO OPEN UP AGAIN?

AT LEAST SHE HAS JP A

BUT GENA CAN'T SPEND A HER TIME_

WITH ONLY US FOREVER

THOUGHT HAVING SOMEONE HER AGE AROUND WOULD HELP HE_

DID I RUSH INTO THIS?

WHAT?

ARE YOU HERE TO...

THIS...

EEK!

...

...

FINE!

ASK ME. WHAT DO YOU WANT TO KNOW?

...

SINCE YOU KNOW YOUR MOM'S FACE...

...YOU MUST HAVE LOTS OF MEMORIES OF HER.

I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT MY MOM...

...LOOKS LIKE...

I WANT TO KNOW ...

WHAT IT FEELS LIKE...

...TO BE HELD BY A MOM

TAI
THAT PLAN IS!
THAT'S AWFUL! YOU MONSTER! YOU JERK!

WHAT IS THIS?!

TAI
HM?

...I DON'T REMEMBER WHAT KIND OF SCENT IT WAS.

SIRHC- 2003.10.06

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NOTES:

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ENJOY!!!

JVJAU
?
?

IDIOT...! I'M TALKING ABOUT YOU!

WHETHER YOU LIVE IN THIS HOUSE OR NOT...

... DOESN'T MATTER TO ME! IDIOT!!

DO YOU UNDER-STAND?!

HUH?

UH... YEAH!

HEH, HEH, HEH...

DON'T EVEN THINK ABOUT BEING TREATED LIKE AN OLDER BROTHER!

I'M TALLER THAN YOU...

...AND I'M STRONGER THAN YOU, TOO.

GOT THAT?

UH-HUH.

THIS DOESN'T FEEL RIGHT.

IF YOU HAVE OTHER QUESTIONS ASK NORA, YOU IDIOT!

SLAM

...

CONGRAT-

YOU HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY MISS GENA.

!

WELCOME TO THE FAMILY...

...

KLUNK

KLUNK

ISAACS RANCH IS [illegible] THE BIGGEST

[illegible] RIGHT?

HA HA HA!

IT'S NOT JUST BIG!

AFTER JACOB ISAACS DIED...

...HIS DAUGHTER TOOK OVER THE RANCH. SINCE THEN,

THE RANCH HAS GROWN TO THREE TIMES ITS ORIGINAL SIZE. WHAT A WOMAN.

[illegible] FAMOUS ACTRESS [illegible]

ON TOP OF THAT, BECAUSE SHE'S SO BEAUTIFUL.

...THERE [illegible] LINED UP AT THE RANCH TO PROPOSE TO HER ALL THE TIME. HAHAHA!

[illegible] RANCH [illegible] BUT SHE MAKES A LOT EASY

KLUNK KLUNK

KLUNK KLUNK

STOMP
STOMP

STOMP
STOMP

STOMP
STOMP

IVAN!

IVAN!

IVAN!

!

THUMP

IVAN, COME OUTSIDE!

I SADDLED UP JUPITER!

HUH...?

GENA...

I TOLD YOU TO KNOCK BEFORE YOU COME IN.

WHY? AFRAID I'LL SEE YOU...

...FOR THE BOOK-WORM YOU ARE?

YOU DON'T HAVE ANYTHING TO HIDE, DO YOU?

!

?

A DOLL!

IS IT FOR ME?

UH ...

GENA! THA... THAT'S..

YOU SILLY ...

...

I DON'T WANT THIS!

IT'S REPULSIVE!

IT'S NOT FOR YOU

IT'S A TYPE OF VOODOO DOLL ONCE USED BY SHAMAN TRIBE SHAMANS.

YOU CAN USE PERSONAL ARTIFACTS ON THIS DOLL TO CAST SPELLS ON SPECIFIC PERSONS

THE SHAMAN USED THESE VOODOO DOLLS TO FIGHT DEMONS

THEY EVEN STOLE SOULS OF OTHER TRIBES' WARRIORS WITH IT.

I DON'T LIKE IT!

I SWEAR YOU WASTE SO MUCH TIME ON USELESS RESEARCH.

AW- WAY...

WHAT ABOUT JUPITER?

OH, YEAH

JUPITER

NEIGH

SNORT

OH MY...

HOW DID YOU DO IT?

SAM SAID IT'LL BE ANOTHER YEAR--

BEFORE WE CAN SADDLE UP JUPITER?

HA HA...

OBVIOUSLY I COULDN'T JUST PUT A SPELL ON JUPITER

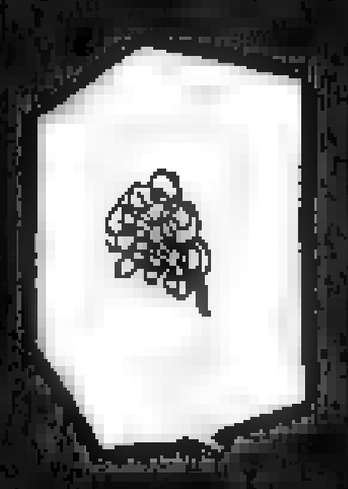
I'M NOT A WITCH, YOU KNOW.

THANKS TO HER...

...MISS GENA'S BEAUTIFUL LEGS ARE ALL BRUISED UP.

WHAT?

YOU MEAN YOU TRAINED HER?!



YAWN

NEIGH!

HUH?

JU... FITER ?!?!

WHU... WHAT THE...!

AGHHHH!!

OH

SORRY SAM!

GE GENA WATCH WHERE YOU'RE GOING

!

AI... AI... ASS...

GE... GENA

DON'T ASK ME. ASK JUPITER!

SLOW DOWN!

...

SIRHC- 2003.10.06

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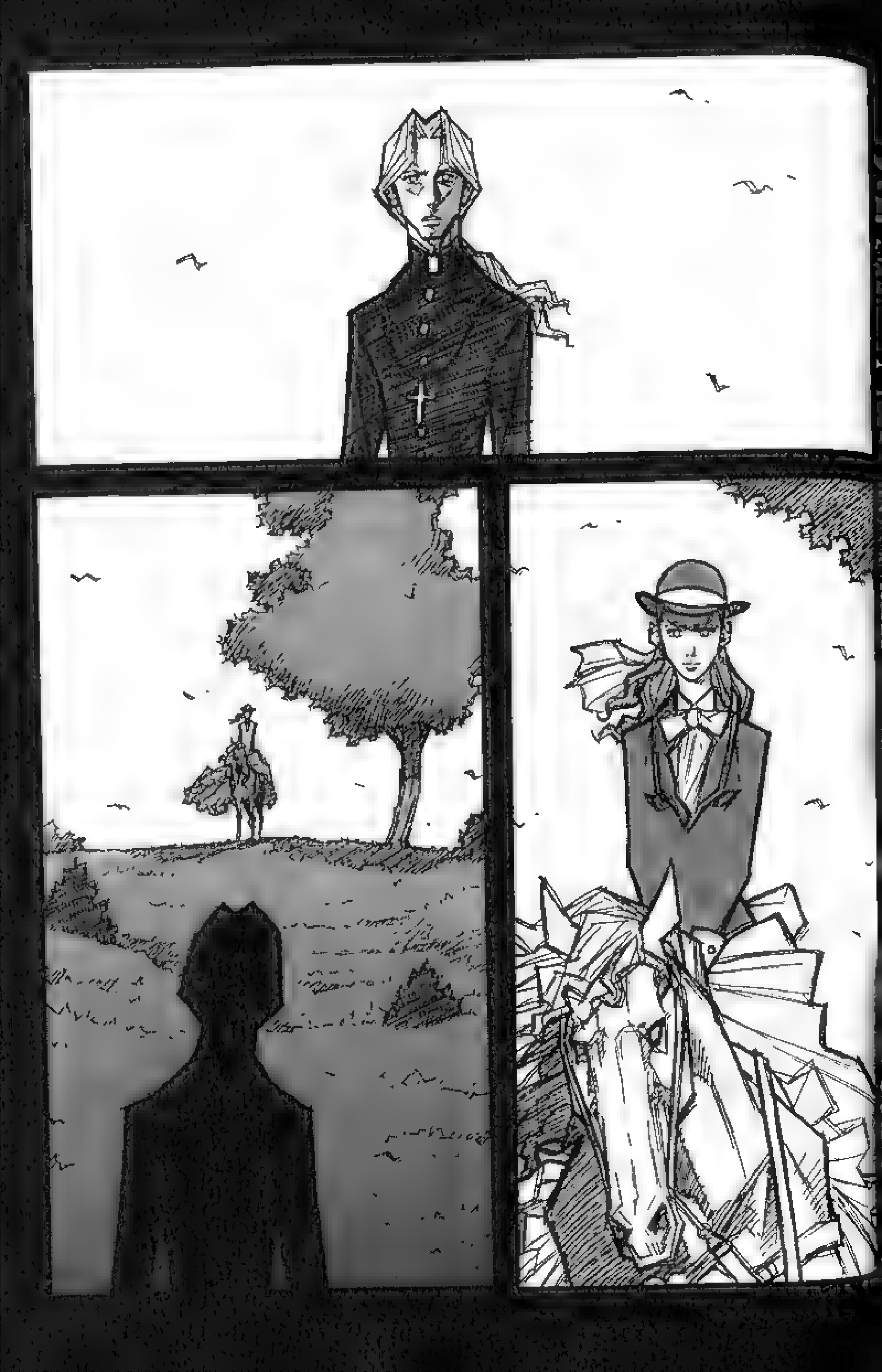


GENA...

WHY...FATHER?

CONRAD'S ONE OF THE MOST PRESTIGIOUS ALMOS'S IN THE NATION WITH A HISTORY OF GREAT SCHOLARS

YOU CAN DEVOTE YOURSELF TO CHURCH-RELATED RESEARCH AS YOU WANT THERE

BU... BUT...

I HAVEN'T DECIDED WHAT I WANT TO DO YET.

...

THERE'S ANOTHER REASON, ISN'T THERE?

IT'S BECAUSE OF GENA, ISN'T IT?

IVAN!

SHUT YOUR MOUTH!

GENA IS YOUR SISTER!!

HOW CAN YOU THINK ABOUT HER LIKE THAT?

...

THAT'S RIGHT.

GENA IS MY SISTER.

I HAD FORGOT-TEN...

...WHAT MY PLACE WAS IN THIS HOUSE.

I'M JUST A FRIEND

TO KEEP GENA COMPANY.

WHAT WAS I THINKING TO WANT MORE?

WHY, YOU UN-GRATE-FUL--!

HOW DARE YOU!

THE DISCUSSION IS OVER.

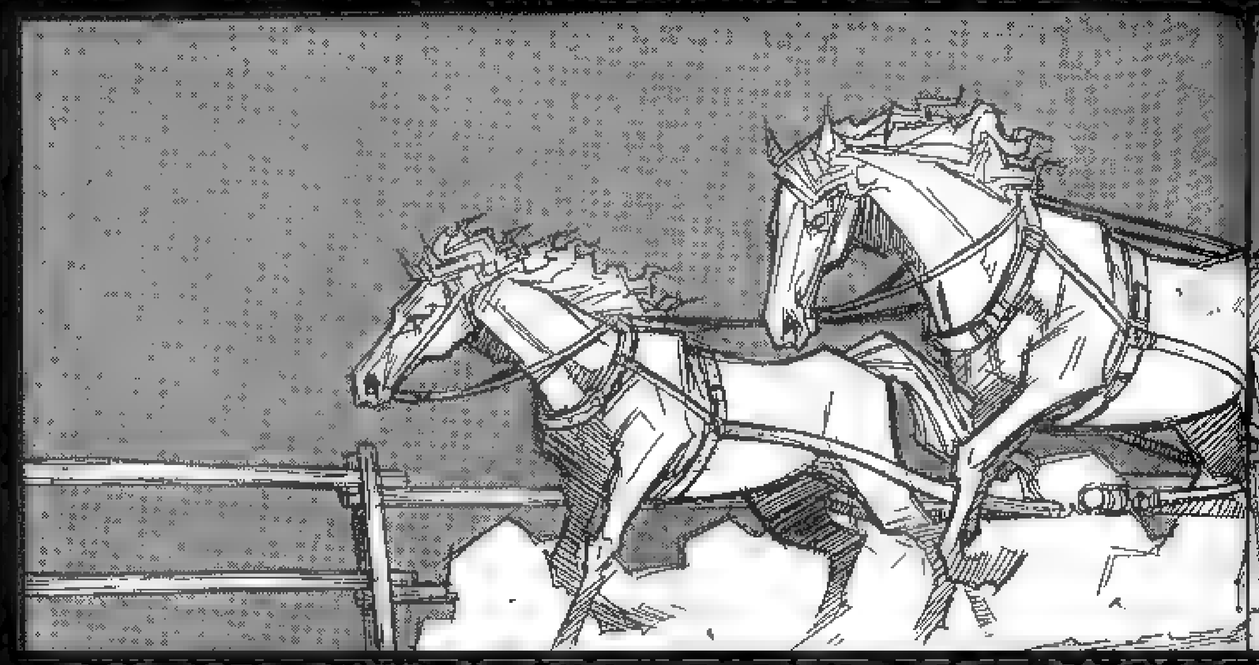
...

!

COWARD.

I WON'T BE HAPPY...

...UNTIL YOU RETURN.



I ALMOST FORGOT HOW BEAUTIFUL C.DEURY S.

IT'S BEEN TOO LONG.

IT'S AMAZING ...

KLUNK

NINE YEARS HAVE GONE BY.

WITHOUT THERE BEING THE SLIGHTEST CHANGE IN C.DEURY

KLUNK

KLUNK

...

WHAT ABOUT YOU, EVAN?

IT WAS A LONG ENOUGH TIME TO CHANGE EVERTHING FOR ME.

THAT'S WHEN I REALIZED

YOU REALLY HAVEN'T CHANGED A BIT ..

...IN THE PAST NINE YEARS.

CAN I TELL YOU SOMETHING YOU DON'T KNOW?

I RESENT FATHER.

I ALWAYS HAVE, EVER SINCE THE DAY YOU LEFT OLDBURY.

GENA...

WELL... DOESN'T MATTER ANYMORE.

IT'S ALL IN THE PAST NOW.

OH!

DON'T YOU WANT TO SEE HOW THE LIBRARY HAS CHANGED?

ROOM
SOMEDAY.
WITHOUT
YOU IN IT.

WA... WAIT, GENA.

I CAME HERE--

JUST TO STOP BY WHILE YOU WAIT FOR YOUR NEW PARISH ASSIGNMENT FROM THE CHURCH?

I KNOW. YOU WROTE IT IN YOUR LETTER.

...

YES...

COME ON, IVAN.

I'M NOT A NAIVE 16-YEAR-OLD ANYMORE.

NORA MADE A SPECIAL DINNER FOR YOUR RETURN.

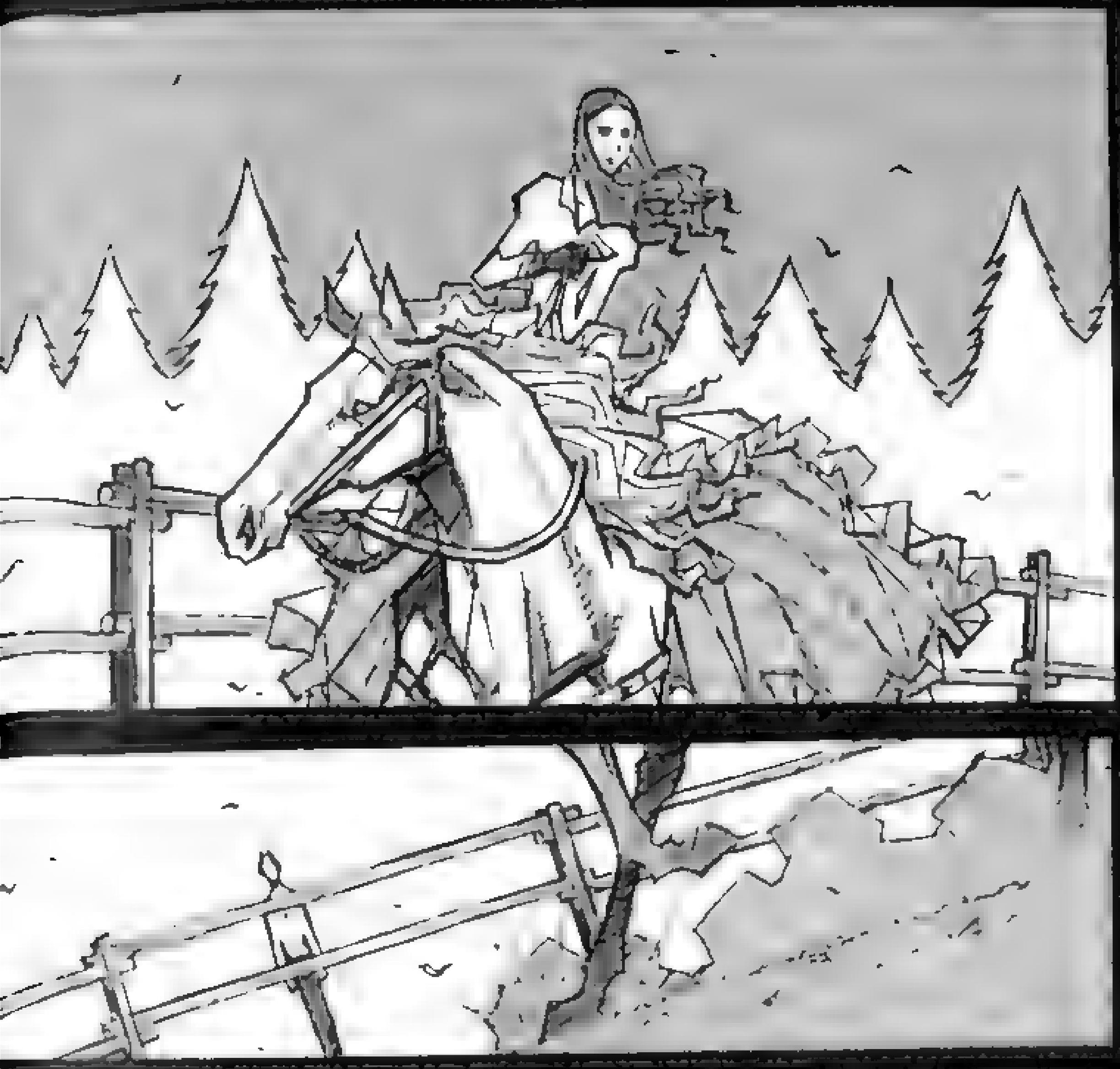
DON'T STAY TOO LONG IN THIS OLD LIBRARY.

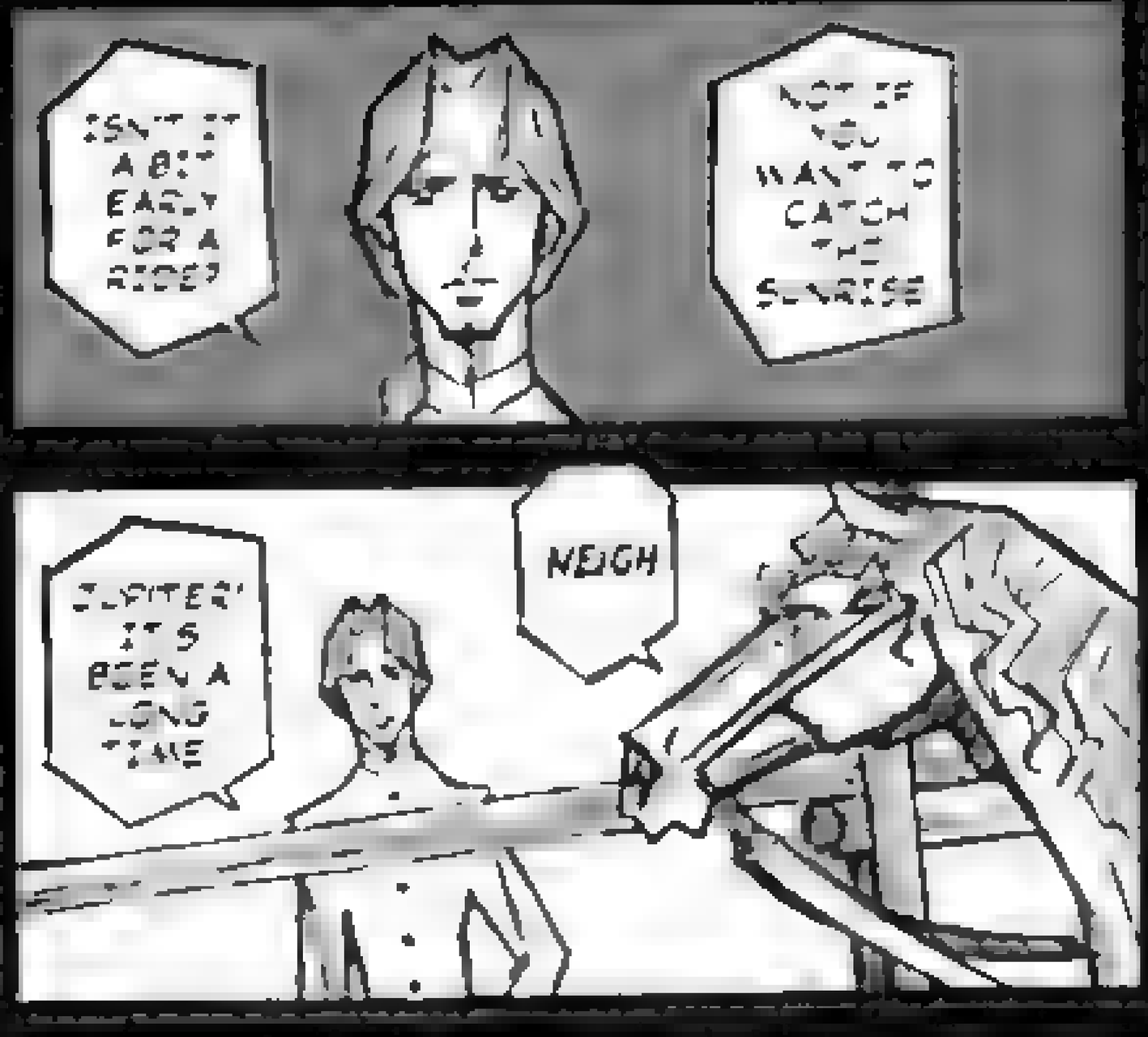
I'LL WAIT FOR YOU DOWN-STAIRS.

CLACK

...

JACOB'S




ISN'T IT A BIT EARLY FOR A RIDE?
NOT IF YOU WANT TO CATCH THE SUNRISE
JUPITER! IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME
NEIGH

HOW ABOUT IT, IVAN?

OR DO "FATHER IVAN" FORGET HOW TO RIDE?

IVAN?

WHO?

NEIGH!

SLAYER

MORNING, SAM!

AHM..

MISS GENA'''

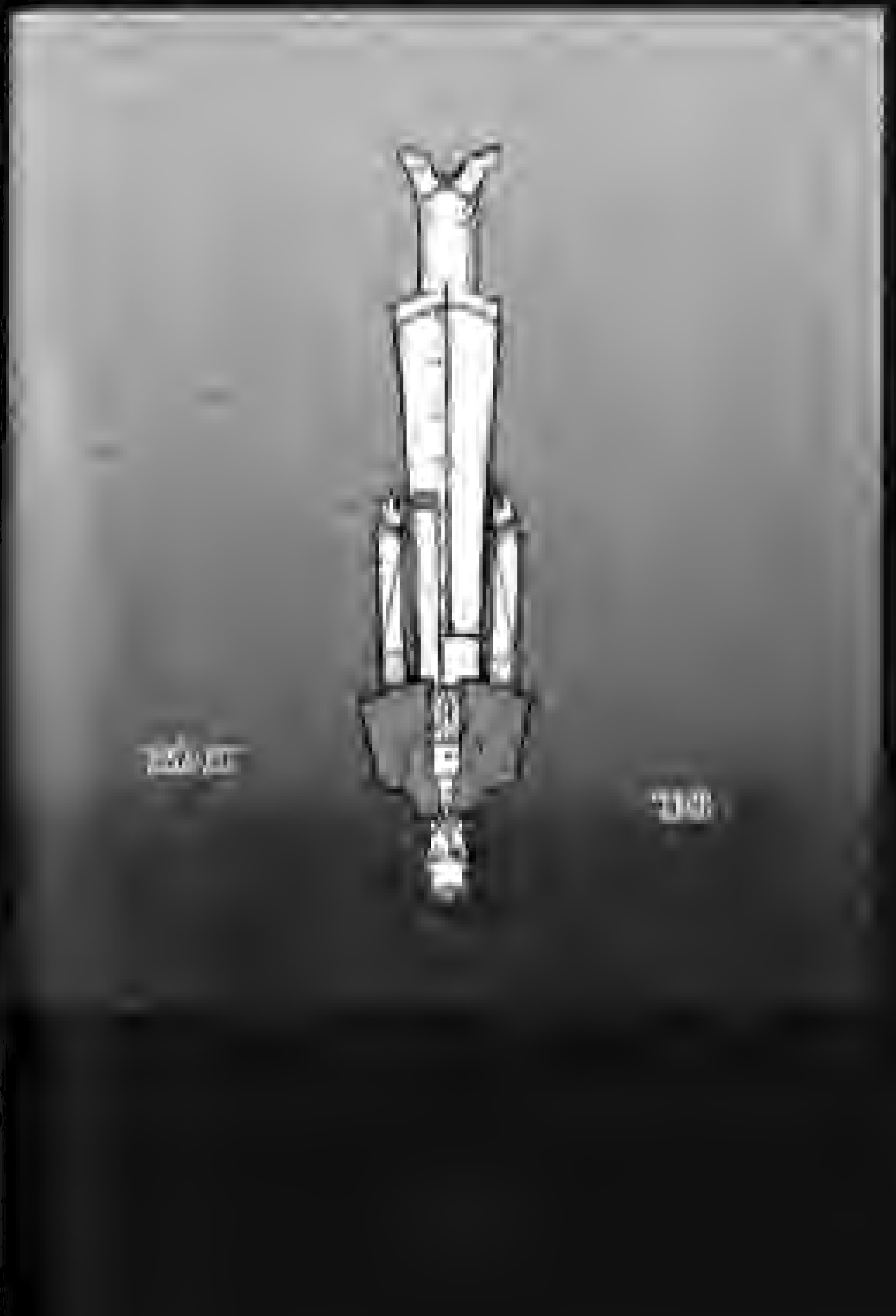
HIYAAA!

WHY DON'T WE MAKE THINGS MORE INTEREST-ING, IVAN?

THE LOSER HAS TO DO WHAT THE WINNER ASKS!

IT'S NOT ME! IT'S JUPITER!

THAT WAS MY LAST GLIMPSE OF
HAPPINESS AS A HUMAN.



SIRHC- 2003.10.31

SYNOPSIS:

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LAST RLS:	BOTI - ISSUES 81-83

SHORT, AND QUICK CHAPTER.

ENJOY!!!

This figure represents the person convinced of sin, and is endeavouring to fix the wrath to come.

I BELIEVE FATHER IVAN ISAACS IS HERE WAITING FOR A PARISH ASSIGNMENT.

WE'RE HERE TO ESCORT HIM.

I AM FATHER RAUL PIESTRO ...

...HEAD PRIEST OF SAINT VERTINEZ CHURCH.

GENA!

...

PLEASE, GENA...

SURE.

GO RIGHT AHEAD.

...

I HEARD A LOT ABOUT YOUR SISTER...

...ON THE WAY OVER HERE.

SHE'S A REMARK-ABLE PERSON.

WHY DON'T YOU TELL ME NOW.

I KNOW YOU'RE NOT HERE TO ASSIGN ME A PARISH, FATHER PIESTRO.

WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT US?

THE REAL NAME FOR SAINT VERTINEZ CHURCH IS "MICHAEL'S SWORD."

IT'S A SECRET ORGANIZATION WITHIN THE VATICAN THAT ANSWERS ONLY TO THE POPE HIMSELF.

IN TIMES OF NEED, THEY HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO TAKE MATTERS INTO THEIR OWN HANDS--EVEN WITHOUT THE HOLY FATHER'S KNOWLDEGE

ITS PRINCIPAL DUTY...

...TO EXPOSE ALL HERETICS'

YOU SEEM TO KNOW A LOT ABOUT OUR ORGANIZATION,...

...FATHER IVAN.

OF COURSE I DO'

I WAS UNDER YOUR GROUP'S INVESTIGATION...

...FIVE YEARS AGO, WHEN I WAS IN SEMINARY.

IT WAS EXACTLY FIVE YEARS AND FOUR MONTHS AGO..

...DURING YOUR FRESHMAN YEAR AT CONRAD SEMINARY.

I HAVE ALREADY RECEIVED ALL DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS FOR THAT INCIDENT.

I THOUGHT THAT THE MATTER WAS CLOSED.

IS THERE A...

...PROBLEM WITH THAT AND MY NEW PARISH ASSIGNMENT?

THERE ISN'T A PROBLEM, PER SE...

...BUT THAT IS THE REASON WHY WE ARE HERE TODAY.

...

YOUR ESSAY...

AH, THANK YOU.

THIS ESSAY YOU WROTE ABOUT THE EXISTENCE OF DEMONS IN ANCIENT RELIGIONS...

...ABOUT THE CONNECTION BETWEEN THOSE DEMONS AND CATHOLICISM...

THIS WAS THE CAUSE OF YOUR INVESTIGATION, WAS IT NOT?

THAT WAS JUST A THEORY ...

BASED ON MY PERSONAL RESEARCH

IVAN, YOU STILL DON'T REALIZE THE KIND OF GIFT YOU HAVE...

...IN ACADEMIC RESEARCH.

DO YOU REALLY THINK THE VATICAN'S SECRET ORGANIZATION WOULD GET INVOLVED IN A MERE THEORY BY A SEMINARY STUDENT?

YOUR INTERPRETATION OF ANCIENT RELIGION HAS EVEN THE EXPERTS FLABBERGASTED.

ALL OF YOUR THEORIES ARE EXACTLY RIGHT.

YOU WERE ONLY REPRI-MANDED ...

...TO KEEP YOU FROM FURTHER RESEARCH.

NOW...

...WE ARE IN NEED OF YOUR HELP.

HELP???

YOU NEED MY HELP?

WE, MEMBERS OF SAINT VERTINEZ...

...HAVE ENCOUNTERED A DIFFICULT SITUATION.

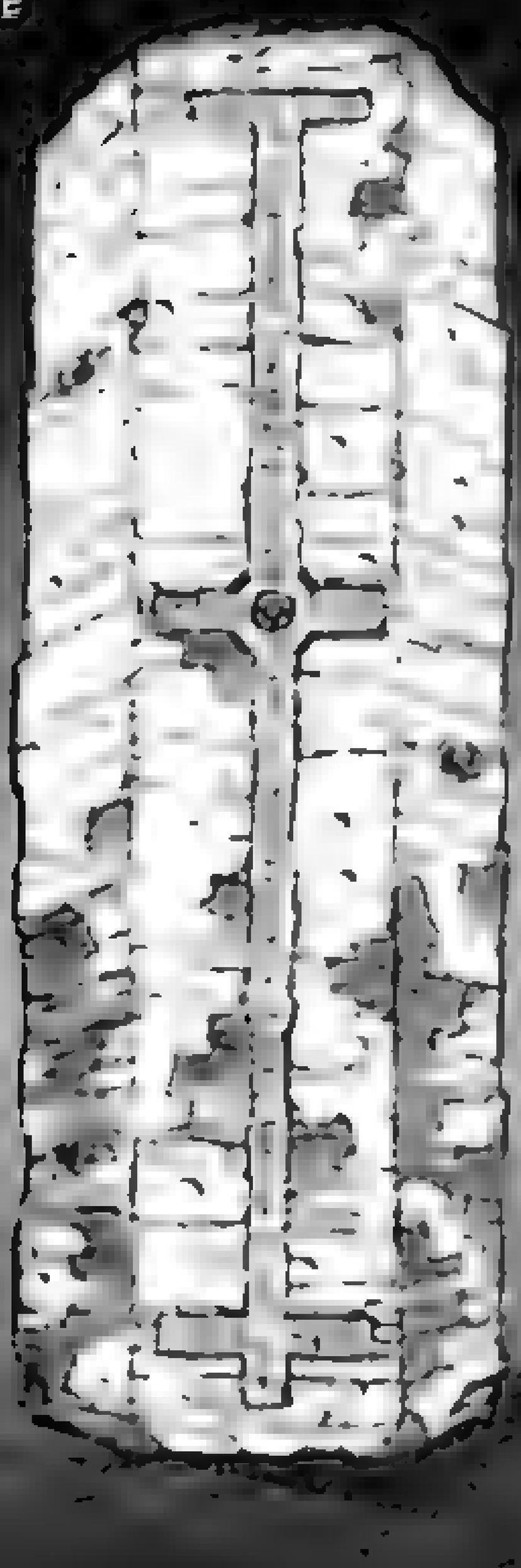
IN OUR EFFORTS TO SOLVE THIS SITLA-TION...

..WE HAVE ASKED FOR HELP FROM NOT ONLY THE VATICAN, BUT FROM EXPERTS IN PARISHES AROUND THE WORLD

WE STILL ARE NOWHERE CLOSE TO SOLVING IT.

PERHAPS
TEST FRO

...OR PERHAPS SOME CRUEL JOKE OF THE DEVIL HIMSELF.



SIRHC- 2003.12.15

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LAST RLS:	SCRYED VOL.3

ENJOY!!!

JUST WEST OF NASHVILLE...

...THERE'S A SMALL MINER'S TOWN CALLED STONETALE.

WE FOUND IT THERE...

...FIVE YEARS AGO.

THERE'S A MONASTERY WHOSE AGE AND ORIGINS ARE A MYSTERY.

SOON AFTER THAT WE FORMED A TEAM OF RESEARCHERS –

...TO UNCOVER ITS ORIGINS.

BUT THE RESEARCH ABRUPTLY ENDED..

...AFTER THREE AND A HALF YEARS.

...

WHY?

MURDER.

ALL OF OUR RESEARCHERS WERE MURDERED.

ALBERT ASHLEY.

NOT ONLY WAS HE AN EXPERT ANALYST OF ANCIENT LANGUAGES...

BUT HE WAS ALSO THE FIRST HEAD PRIEST OF ST. VERTINEZ...

...AND MY PERSONAL SPIRITUAL LEADER.

!

W.. WHY?

H... HOW?

WE DON'T KNOW.

THE MURDERER WAS...

...ONE OF OUR OWN RESEARCHERS.

RADAFA
NEONITRA

VER
APEHEA

YOU WHO
TER
NTO
DARKNE

YOU THINK
YOU CAN
ILLUMINATE

ANYONE WHO DISTURBS DOMAS PORADA'S

...WILL SUFFER FOR

INTO A PSYCHOTIC MURDERER

WARNING WAS DEFINITELY MORE THAN THE RAMBLINGS OF A MADMAN.

CONAN

PORADA?

FATHER ALBERT'S DEATH.

WE TRIED EVERY-THING...

TO NO AVAIL.

WE HAVE YET TO FIGURE OUT THE MEANING OF ANY OF THE INSCRIPTIONS.

THAT'S WHERE WE ARE RIGHT NOW.

...

WILL YOU HELP US, IVAN?

YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE...

...WHO CAN HELP US.

HALT

FATHER IVAN.

THIS IS NO MERE REQUEST FROM ONE PARISH-IONER TO ANOTHER.

IT IS YOUR DUTY. TO HIS HOLINESS, TO YOUR FAITH...TO YOURSELF.

OKAY, I WILL.

I'LL DO EVERYTHING IN MY POWER...

...TO HELP YOU.

BY SAYING THOSE WORDS...

...I WAS CONDEMNING GENA AND MYSELF TO A PLACE WORSE THAN HELL

STEP

!

GENA!

I WON'T THROW THEM AWAY.

NOT ONE THING IN THIS ROOM.

...

GENA...

I THINK THIS IS ALL I NEED...

...FROM THE LIBRARY.

HMMM... WITH THE REST OF THE BOOKS...

...FEEL FREE TO--

I'LL LEAVE IT AS IS.

I AM EXACTLY THE SAME ...

...AS I WAS NINE YEARS AGO.

I DON'T HAVE THE STRENGTH ...

...TO BREAK FREE FROM THE CAGE I'M IN.

AND I HAVE NEVER BEEN MORE ASSURED OF MY DECISIONS ...

...THAN I AM NOW.

I'M SORRY ...

WHY DON'T YOU EVEN...

...GIVE ME A CHANCE?

...

ARE YOU WILLING TO THROW EVERYTHING AWAY FOR FAITH?

EVEN LOVE?

YOU'RE SUCH A...

... HYPO-CRITE!

TELL ME, IVAN.

TELL ME THAT YOU DON'T LOVE ME.

GENA...

I'M SORRY.

...

WHAT WAS I AFRAID OF?

I'LL WAIT ...

I DON'T CARE HOW LONG.

HOW-EVER LONG IT TAKES YOU...

...TO TRUST YOUR HEART ...

I'M GOING TO WAIT!

DO YOU ...

...HEAR ME IVAN ISAACS ?!

I...

I...

I'M GOING TO WAIT FOR YOU.

WE'RE DONE LOADING YOUR LUGGAGE.

WHERE ARE YOUR OTHER BELONG-INGS?

NO ...

THAT'LL BE ALL.

I SEE.

SHALL WE BE GOING THEN?

THU-THUMP

THU-THUMP

NEIGH

GIDDY-UP!

NEIGH

THU-THUMP

TH-THUMP

DO THE MEMORIES OF MY WRETCHED CHILDHOOD

KEEP ME FROM SEEKING MY TRUE HAPPINESS?

FAITH WITHOUT TRIALS

AND TRIBULATIONS IS LIKE ...

...DRINKING WATER WHEN YOU'RE NOT THIRSTY. YOU CAN'T TRULY APPRECIATE IT.

WHAT ?

...I DON'T MEAN TO PRY...

...BUT YO SEEM TO DISTRACT BY SOME THNG.

RELIGION CAN COMFORT US IN OUR TIMES OF NEED...

KLUNK

...BUT IT CAN'T TAKE AWAY ALL OF OUR WORRIES.

KLUNK

AS LONG AS YOUR HEART IS WITH GOD, THOSE TRIALS CAN ONLY MAKE YOU STRONGER.

FOR MY LIFE, FILLED WITH UNCERTAINTY...

...BECOMING A PRIEST SEEMED MY BEST PLACE OF REFUGE.

WOULD I HAVE BEEN ABLE TO ESCAPE THIS HELLISH REALITY...

JACOB

...IF I HAD ALLOWED MYSELF TO STAY WITH HER?

IVAN...

WELCOME...

...he who knows the secret of awakening.

NOW...

REAWAKEN ME FROM THIS MATRIX OF SILENCE!

SIRHC- 2003.12.15

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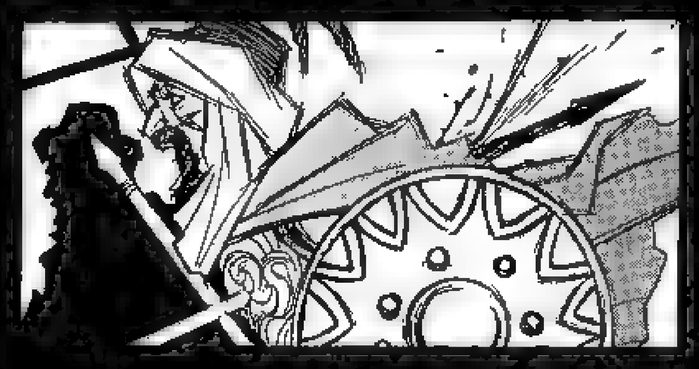
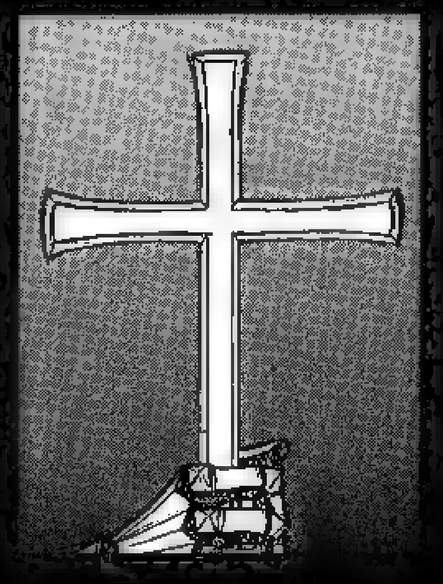
ENJOY!!!

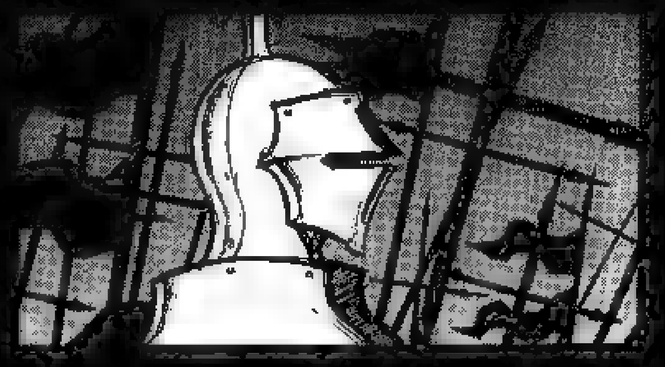
HE CAME TO THIS LAND...

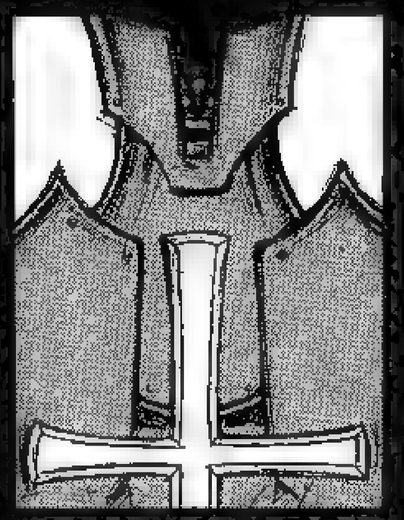
FROM A TIME LONG, LONG AGO...





HIS ARMOR WAS MADE OF SILVER...

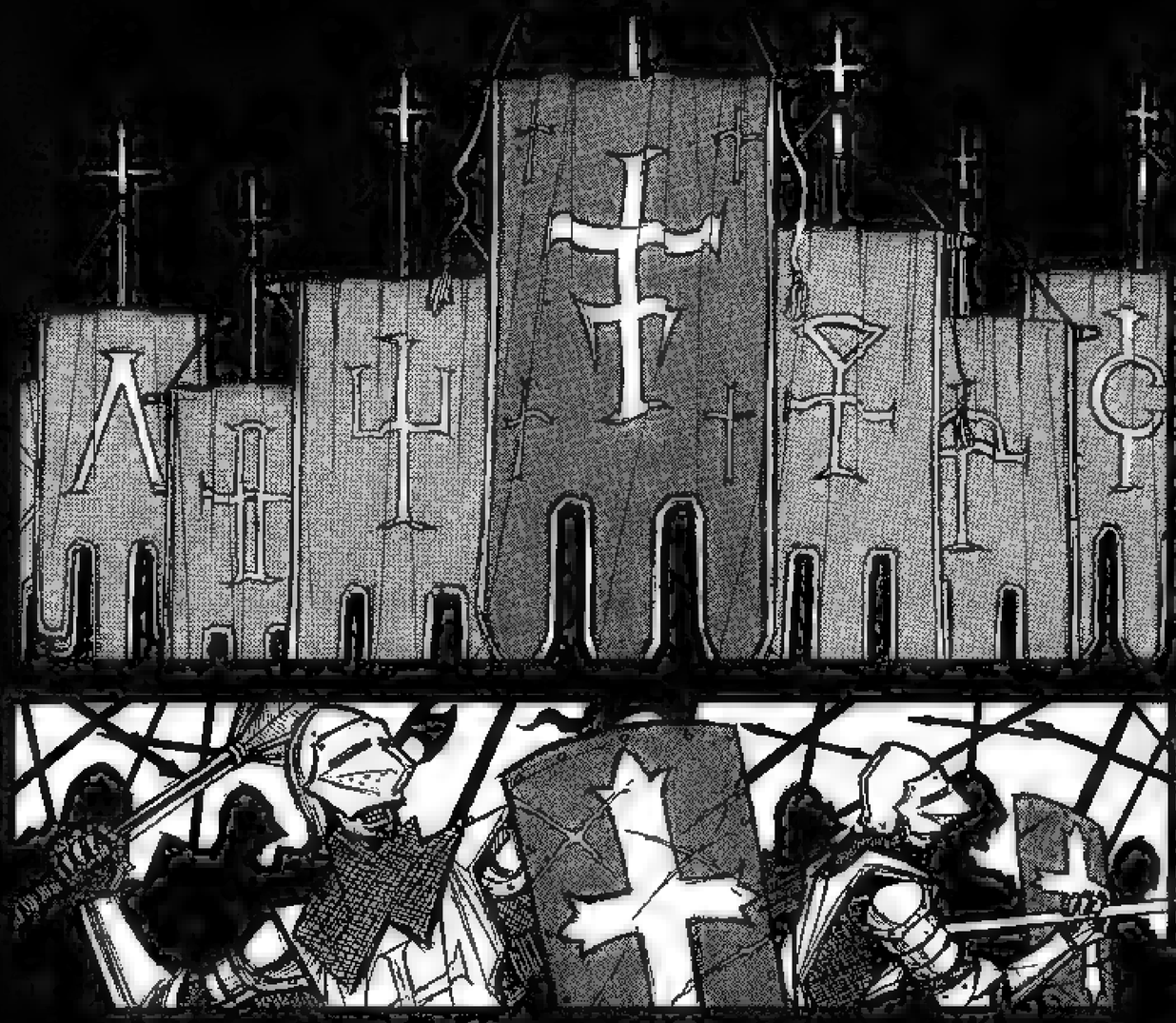




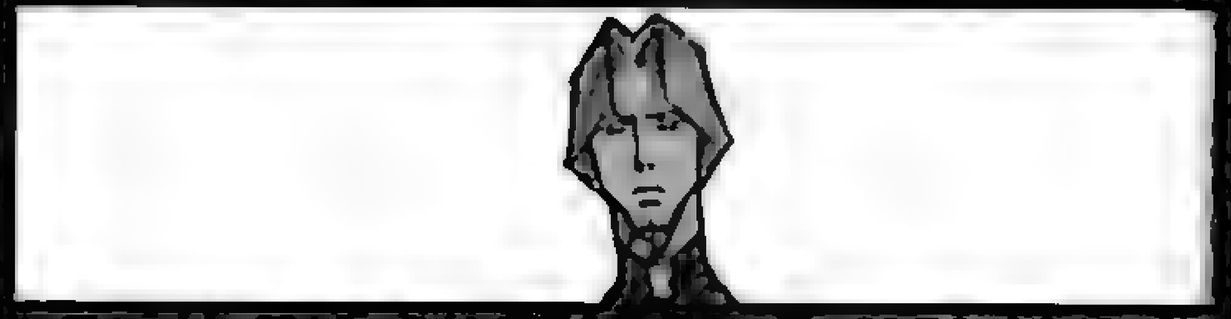
HIS MOUTH WAS FULL OF PRAISE FOR THE LORD...

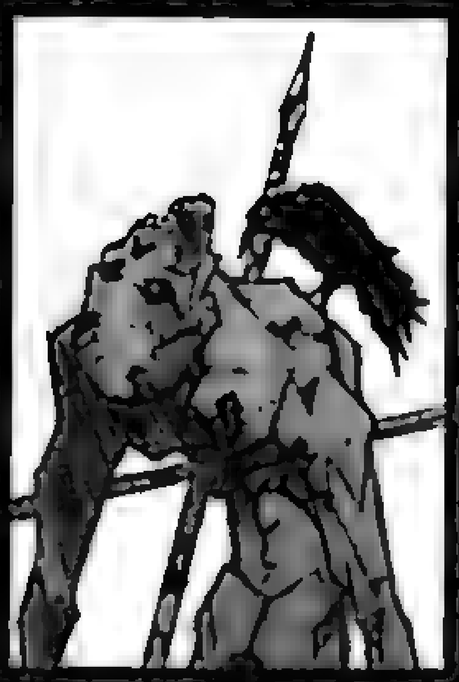
...AND HIS SWORD...

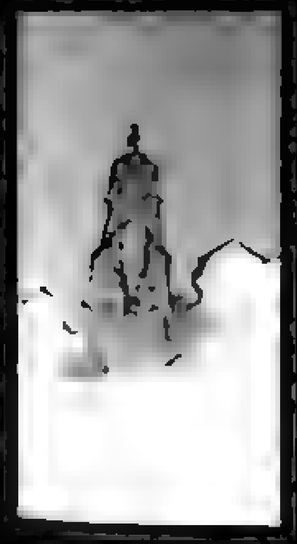
...HIS SWORD WAS HIS CONDEMNATION OF THE HERETICS.

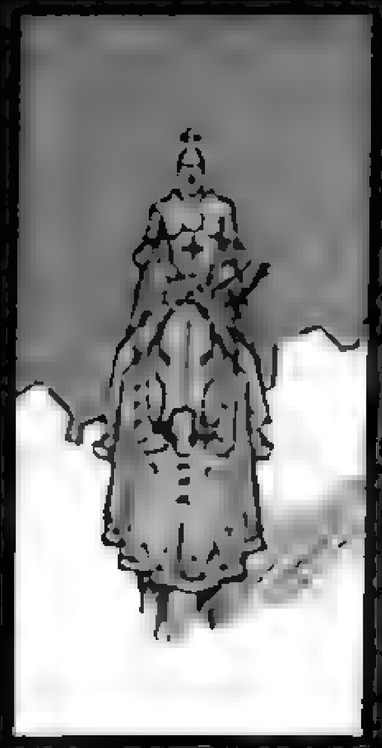


HE LED AN ARMY FILLED WITH HATRED FOR THE HERETICS.









IVAN, THE ONE WHO KNOWS THE SECRET OF AWAKENING...

THE TIME HAS COME!

GO!

REAWAKEN ME FROM THE MATRIX OF SILENCE!

GASP!

KLUNK

KLUNK

KLUNK

KLUNK

YOU MUST HAVE BEEN DREAMING.

!

...

A-

KLUNK

KLUNK

A SCREAM...?

THU-THUMP

THU-THUMP

A-

!

...

WE'RE HERE.

!!

REAWAKEN ME...

...FROM THE MATRIX OF SILENCE!

SIRHC- 2003.12.15

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LAST RLS:	SCRYED VOL.3

ENJOY!!!

TAP-TAP-TAP
TAP-TAP-TAP
TAP-TAP-TAP
TAP-TAP-TAP
TAP-TAP-TAP
TAP-TAP-TAP
TAP-TAP-TAP
I THOUGHT I HEARD SOMETHING OUT THERE

DIRTY CATHOLICS!

GET OUT!

LEAVE!

LEAVE OUR VILLAGE NOW!

NEIGH

NEIGH

NEIGH

!!

OUR VILLAGE WILL BE CURSED

BECAUSE OF YOU!!

CURSED!

BUT...

...WHY DO PEOPLE REACT THAT WAY?

IT'S BECAUSE ...

...OF OUR WORK.

THEY THINK...

...WE'RE TRYING TO AWAKE THE DEVIL FROM ITS SLUMBER.

DEVIL'S...SLUMBER?

THAT DREAM... WAS IT A VISION?

BUT, WHY? WHY WOULD THOSE IMAGES APPEAR IN MY DREAM?

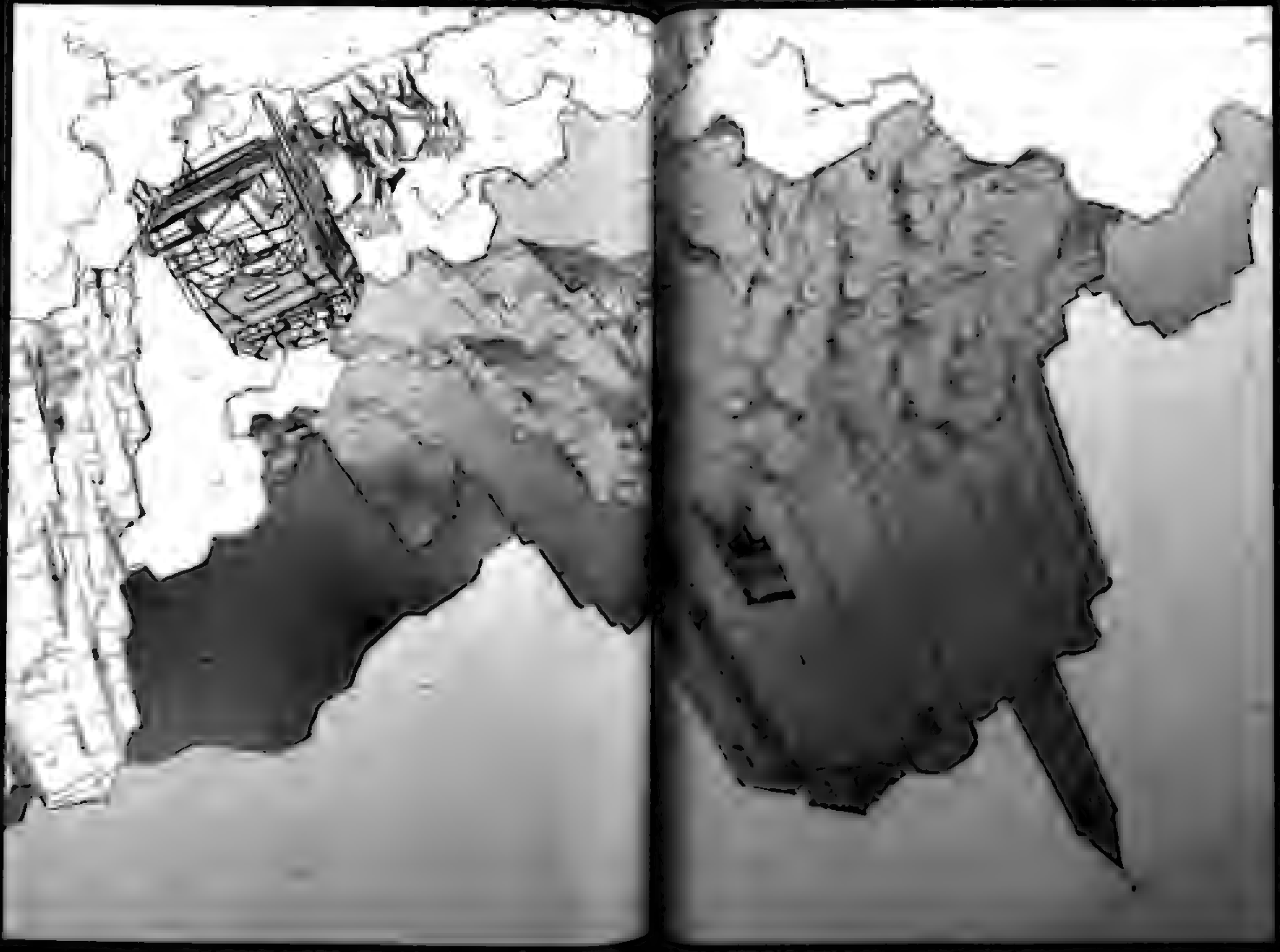
THERE'S NO RECORD OF...

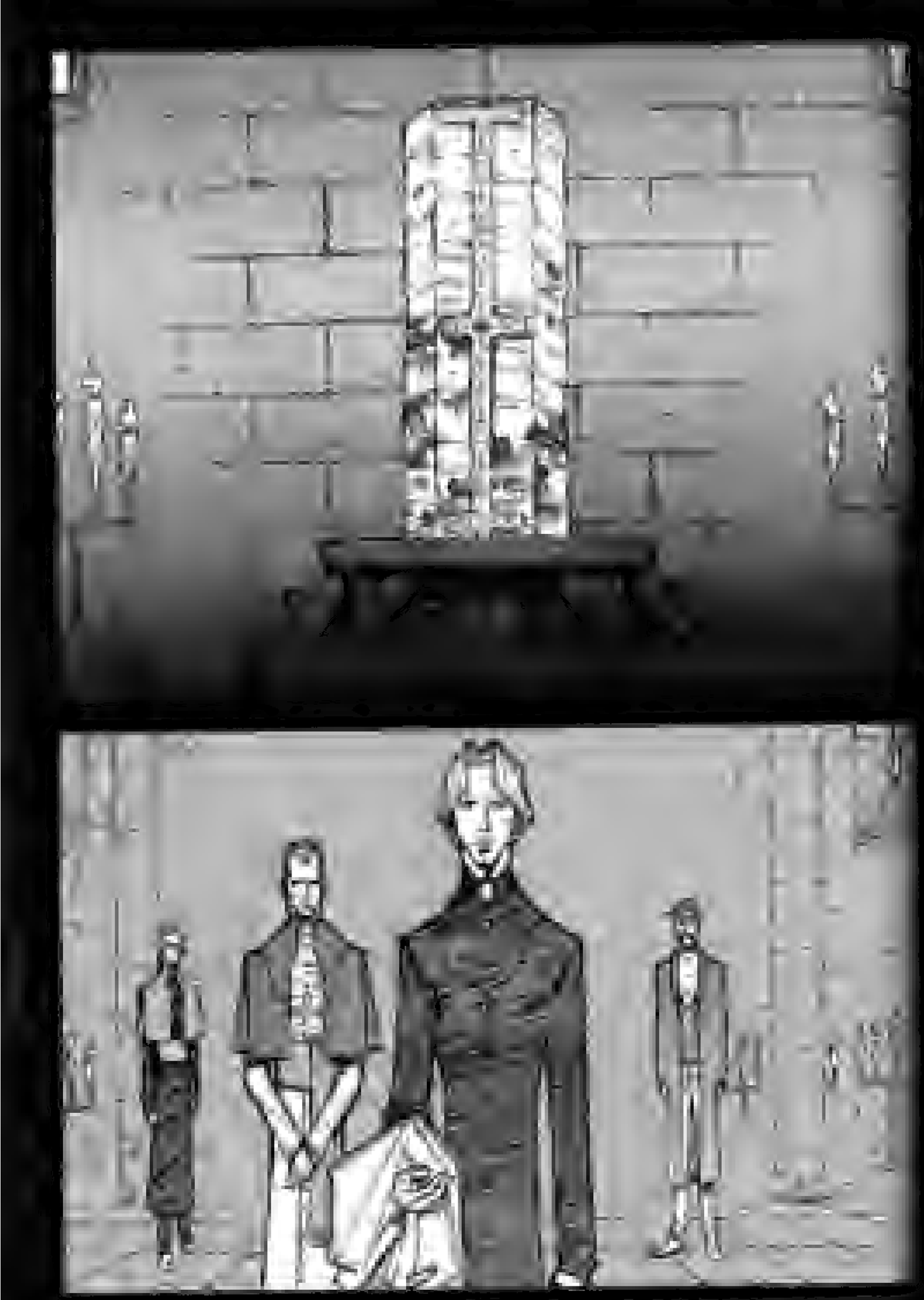
...THAT MONASTERY IN ANY CHURCH LOGS.

NO ONE KNOWS IF IT WAS BUILT BY...

...THE PIONEERS OF STONE-TALE...

...OR BY PARISHIONERS OF A NAMELESS DENOMINA-TION.





I CAN'T BELIEVE

RADAFA NEONITRA ...

VERISE APEHEM

ETURE... AHNUSE MOSS PROACTA

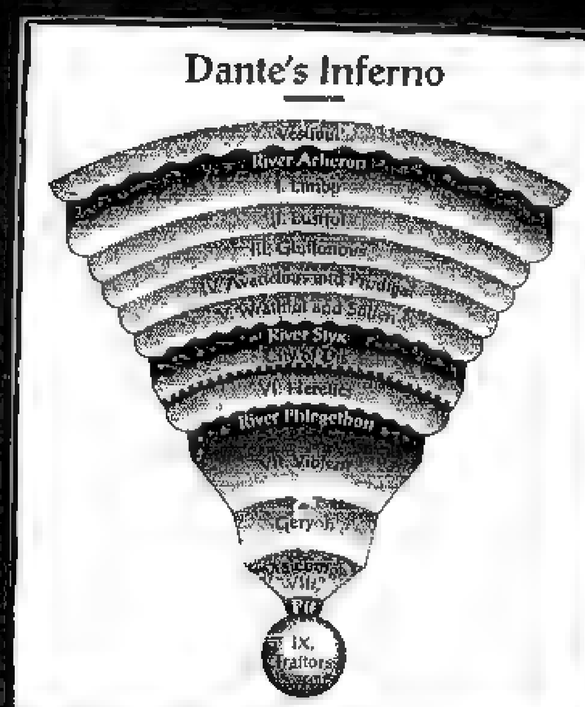
ETURE MONDE MELEBAR!

YOU WHO ENTER INTO THE DARKNESS, NOT KNOWING THE POWER OF ITS FORCES...

YOU THINK YOU CAN LIGHT UP THE DARKNESS WITH BURNT ASHES?

FOOLS OF FAITH! CUT OFF YOUR DESIRES AND RUN AWAY FROM THE DAMNATIONS OF HELL!

ANYONE WHO DISTURBS DOMAS PORADA'S REST WILL SUFFER FOR ETERNITY IN THE FIERY PIT OF DAMNATION!!



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ENJOY!!!

OH...

OH, MY.

!

IT'S AMAZING!

HE READS IT LIKE A BOOK...

H... HOW DID HE DO THAT?

THIS IS PROFESSOR ANTONIO MARTIN.

HE IS ST VERTINEZ'S RENOWNED EXPERT IN ANCIENT LANGUAGES.

C... CAN YOU TELL ME?

HOW DID YOU INTERPRET THOSE INSCRIPTIONS?

THE SYMBOLS ARE DIFFERENT FROM THOSE I'VE SEEN BEFORE ...

...BUT I'M POSITIVE THAT THIS INSCRIPTION IS A PROTECTION WARD USED BY THE ANCIENT BELAKIANS.

BE... BELAKIANS?

THAT CAN'T BE...

THEY ONLY EXIST IN THE TALES OF HERETIC LITERATURE!

EVEN AT THAT, ALL RELEVANT MATERIALS ...

...WERE DESTROYED DURING THE MIDDLE AGES WHEN HERETIC TRIALS RAN RAMPANT.

THAT'S RIGHT. ONLY A FEW SYMBOLS WRITTEN HERE AND THERE ESCAPED THE BONFIRES...

WE JUST HAVE TO USE WHAT WE KNOW AND MAKE EDUCATED GUESSES TO FILL THE GAPS.

I HAVE HAD PERSONAL INTERESTS IN ANCIENT LANGUAGES, EVEN BEFORE I STARTED SEMINARY ...

...BUT THIS IS MY FIRST PERSONAL CONTACT WITH AN ACTUAL RELIC.

HOW CAN HE INTERPRET THE WHOLE THING ...

...USING A FEW SYMBOLS AND GUESSES ???

ALL RIGHT.

EVERYONE.

THIS IS FATHER IVAN IS AN EXPERT IN ANCIENT LANGUAGE.

THE HOLY

HE SHOULD BE OF GREAT HELP IN OUR RESEARCH HERE.

THAT YOU WERE YOUNG...

I WAS VERY IMPRESSED WITH THE

OUR CALLING AWAITS U

WE HAVE TO TRUST IN THE POWER THAT OUR LORD HA BESTOWED

GATHER ALL OUR KNOWLEDGE FOR THIS MISSION

I HAD NEVER FELT SO SMALL AND INSIGNIFICANT...

...AS WHEN I FIRST ENCOUNTERED DOMAS PORADA.

MY PRIMAL OBSESSION WITH THAT ANCIENT ARTIFACT...

...THREW EVERYTHING IN MY LIFE INTO OBLIVION.

MY GUILT TOWARDS GENA...

MY SUSPICION OF FATHER PIESTRO...

BUT...

EVEN OBLIVION...

...COULD NOT SAVE ME FROM THE HARBINGER OF DARKNESS IN MY DREAMS.

OCTOBER 14TH, XXXX.

IT WAS AMAZING.

THE INSCRIPTIONS ON DOMAS PORADA AREN'T JUST A WARNING— THEY SEEM TO HIDE SOME SOPHISTICATED MATHEMATICAL FORMULA!

IT'S AS IF THE PILLAR IS AN ELABORATE PUZZLE BOX, BUT HIDING WHAT?

I WILL BREAK THIS PUZZLE...

...BUT IT WILL TAKE TIME...

...PERHAPS A LIFETIME.

OCTOBER 20TH...

...SOME SORT OF HIEROGLYPHS.

IT MIGHT BE PREMATURE, BUT I THINK I'VE DECRYPTED THE FIRST SECTION.

THE MATHEMATICAL FORMULAS ON DOMAS PORADA...

...ARE USED TO GENERATE...

IVAN...

WHAT DO YOU HOPE TO FIND HERE?

WHO... WHO ARE YOU?!

DO NOT TEST YOUR FAITH.

IT IS NOT TOO LATE TOO RUN FROM THE CURSED FUTURE THAT AWAITS YOU!

BE AFRAID! YOU WILL SOON LOSE ALL THAT YOU LOVE AND ROAM THE EARTH...
...YOUR LAMENTATIONS MIXED WITH VENGEANCE, LEAVING A TRAIL OF BLOOD.

SIRHC- 2003.12.15

SYNOPSIS:

BEFORE IVAN ISSACS BECAME THE UNDEAD PILGRIM WHO BATTLES TEMOZARELA'S FORCES, HE WAS JUST A MORTAL MAN WITH THE USUAL HUMAN FAILINGS ORPHANED AT AN EARLY AGE. IVAN WAS ADOPTED BY JACOB ISAACS, A WEALTHY FRONTIERSMAN WHO WANTED HIS ONLY DAUGHTER, JENNA, TO HAVE A COMPANION. IN THE SOLITUDE OF THE ISAACS' HOMESTEAD, THE TWO SIBLINGS DEVELOPED STRONGER FEELINGS THAN THEIR FATHER OR SOCIETY WOULD ALLOW. TO ESCAPE FROM HIS DESIRE, IVAN ENTERED SEMINARY, WHERE HE FOUND A NEW INTEREST: THE STUDY OF ANCIENT RELIGIONS. NINE YEARS LATER, FATHER IVAN ISAACS IS STILL HAUNTED BY MEMORIES OF HIS TRUE LOVE. BUT A NEW FIGURE HAS BEGUN APPEARING IN HIS DREAMS-A KNIGHT TEMPLAR, A HOLY DEFENDER OF THE CRUSADES. NOW IVAN STANDS AT A CROSSROADS. ONE PATH LEADS TO ANCIENT DEMONS, THE OTHER TO A FORBIDDEN LOVE. WHICHEVER PATH HE CHOOSES WILL CERTAINLY LEAD TO DAMNATION.

NOTES:

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LAST RLS:	SCRYED VOL.3

ENJOY!!!

WHY...

!

YOU SEEM TO HAVE NIGHTMARES QUITE OFTEN.

FATHER PIESTRO ...

I CAME IN A FEW MINUTES AGO...

...BUT COULDN'T WAKE YOU. YOU'RE A HEAVY SLEEPER, FATHER IVAN.

I CAME HERE BECAUSE...

...THERE'S A BOOK THAT I WANTED TO SHOW YOU.

A BOOK?

IT CONTAINS SECRET RECORDS OF THE HERETIC TRIALS...

...DURING THE MIDDLE AGES.

IT'S FILLED WITH THE DARK SECRETS OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH...

...THAT CANNOT BE REVEALED TO THE WORLD.

I THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE OF HELP TO YOU...

...IN YOUR RESEARCH.

SLAM!

STUT

STUT

STUT

STUT

!

CLANG

DOCTOR GIUSEPPE DAVANZO'S RESEARCH

NO...

TH...

THIS CAN'T BE!

I'VE BEEN INTRODUCED TO AN UNBELIEVABLE HISTORY...

...IN THE BOOK FATHER PIETRO GAVE TO ME.

WHAT WAS WRITTEN IN THE BOOK WAS MY BIGGEST CLUE IN UNRAVELING THE SECRETS OF DOMAS PORADA

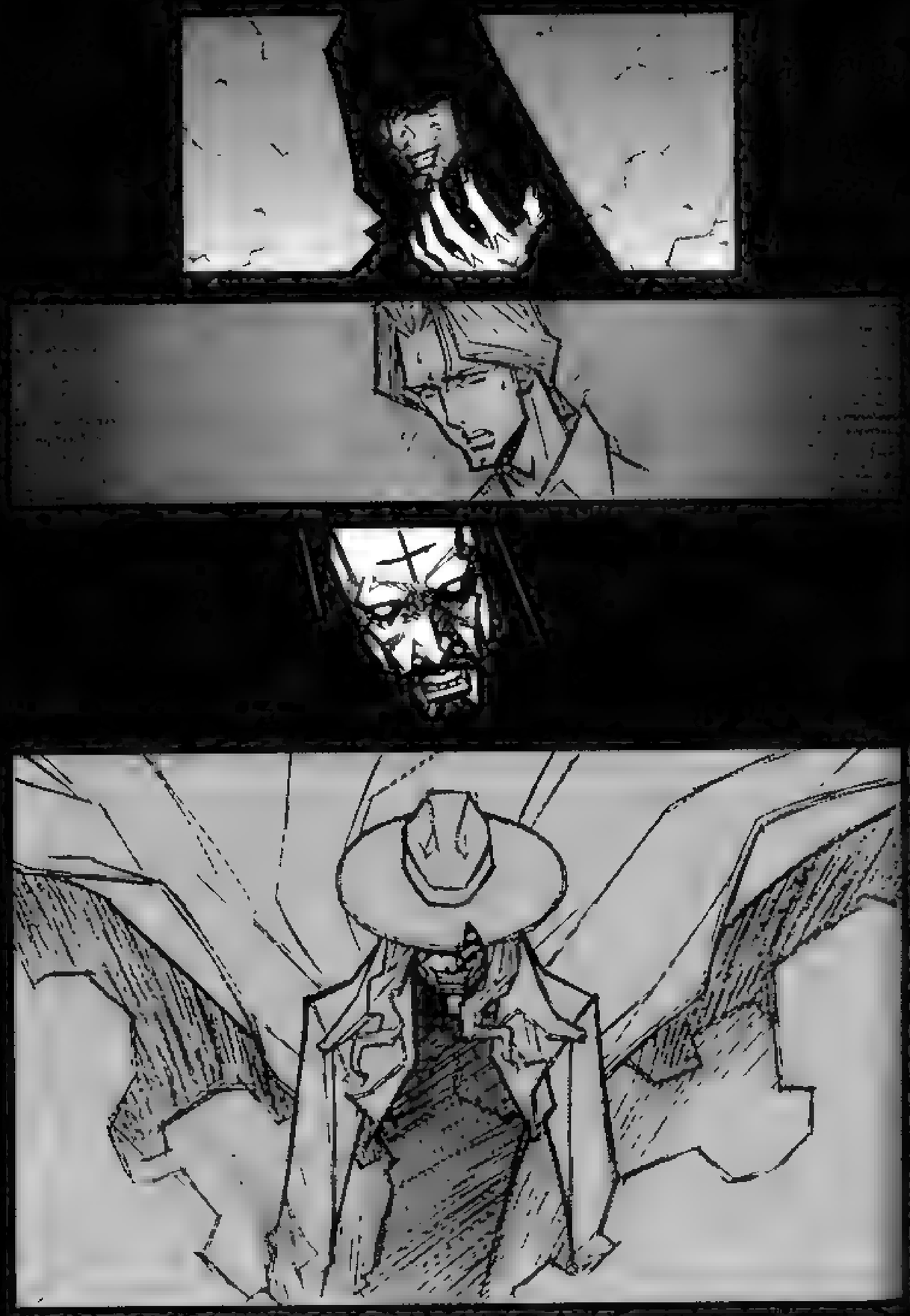
BUT WHAT FINALLY BROUGHT ALL OF THE PIECES TOGETHER

WAS MY DREAMS

THIS CANNOT BE A COINCIDENCE!

THEN...

...IS DOMAS PORADA THE SOURCE OF MY DREAMS?



THIS IS INSANE!

FOMULAS AREN'T WORKING.

LET'S FACE THE FACTS.

ALL WE KNOW IS THAT THE INSCRIPTIONS ARE WRITTEN IN BELAKIAN. NOTHING MORE.

HMM..

PERHAPS WE'RE JUST APPLYING THE WRONG FORMULAS.

ACCORDING TO MY CALCULATIONS ...

...THERE CAN BE NO MORE THAN 58 FORMULAS GENERATED FROM THESE SYMBOLS.

TO BE HONEST...

...I'M NOT CONVINCED THAT THERE ARE ANY MATHE-MATICAL FORMULAS ...

...HIDDEN IN THESE INSCRIPTIONS.

BUT WE HAVEN'T EXHAUSTED ...

...ALL THE POSSIBILI-TIES, YET.

WE CAN TRY TO CALCULATE ...

...USING INVERSE FORMULAS AND—

FATHER CLEMENS, ENOUGH!

THE NUMBER OF POSSIBILI-TIES IS INFINITE!

WE HAVE BUT ONE OPTION LEFT...

WE HAVE TO BREAK OPEN THE DOMAS PORADA.

!

THAT WILL BE UNNECE-SSARY.

DOMAS PORADA ISN'T...

...A SIMPLE RELIC OF AN ANCIENT RELIGION.

FWUMP!!

THE DOMAS PORADA IS A PRISON...

...WHICH HOLDS THE SOUL OF THE DEVIL!

!

DOMAS PORADA WAS CREATED USING BELAKIAN SPELLS...

...IN ORDER TO WEAKEN THE DEVIL'S SPIRIT...

...AND TO KEEP HIM CHAINED WITHIN.

IT ALL STARTED 800 YEARS AGO, WITH A KNIGHT TEMPLAR OF THE CRUSADES NAMED VASCAR DE GUILLON...

...WHO WOULD LATER BE CALLED TEMOZARE LA.

SIRHC- 2003.12.15

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ENJOY!!!

THOSE WHO CAN HEAR, LISTEN TO THE CALL!

THOSE WHO CAN SPEAK, PRAISE THE LORD!

GO FORTH ...

...GOD'S WARRIORS!

UNLEASH GOD'S WRATH UPON...

...THIS WICKED LAND!

LORD!

PROTECT YOUR SERVANTS!

GOD HAS BECKONED US TO ARMS!

ERADICATE THE HERETICS AND RECLAIM THIS DEFILED HOLY LAND!

ALL HERETICS, MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN, SHALL SEE THY END.

THE LORD'S WRATH WILL ABATE ONLY WHEN THE BLOOD OF ALL HERETICS FLOWS THROUGH THIS LAND LIKE A MIGHTY A RIVER.

BEHOLD!

THEIR PAGAN FLAGS WAVE INSOLENTLY IN GOD'S AIR!

CLUNK

DEATH TO THE HERETICS!!

BAPTISE THE LAND IN THEIR BLOOD!

PRAISE THE LORD!

KYAAAH!

HIYAA!!

PRAISE THE LORD!

EXALT HIS NAME!

!

IVAN ISAACS WILL RETURN IN
PRIEST VOLUME 5: BALLAD OF A FALLEN ANGEL

IN WHICH THE DARK HISTORIES OF TEMOZARELA AND BELIAL ARE AT LAST REVEALED.